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WITH A SUPPLEMENT,  
FIVEPENCE.



FRENCH PRISONERS IN ORLEANS CATHEDRAL.



## EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY.

The coming midnight will witness the expiration of the year of grace 1870. It has been a most memorable year—memorable for good achieved, memorable also for ills inflicted. The latter, partly because they range most closely to us in point of time, partly because of their gigantic dimensions, absorb so large a share of attention as to make the former appear dwarfish in comparison. Yet the benefits secured during the first half of the year were of a sufficiently high order to ensure for it a proud distinction over the general run of its predecessors. Weal and woe divided it between them pretty equally, as far as the duration of each one's predominance is considered; but the proportions of woe have been so extraordinarily developed that posterity will probably look back upon A.D. Eighteen Hundred and Seventy as chiefly conspicuous for its misfortunes, its offences, and its sufferings.

Contrary to our wont, we begin our annual retrospect with a glance at foreign affairs. They can hardly be said to have become obtrusive till midsummer. The French Empire, it is true, attracted from neighbouring nations more than a passing interest. Napoleon III. made it manifest, by the oscillating character of his domestic policy, that, to his eye, at least, the permanent establishment of his dynasty was uncertain, and his alternate loosening and tightening of the reins of personal government tended rather to favour than to avert the growth of distrust towards the throne. It resulted, no doubt, from this state of feeling that the parasites of his Court urged him to seek the rehabilitation of his prestige in war. Baffled at home in the leading purpose of his policy, he began to look for the realisation of it abroad. The gift of the Palatinate to France, and the dislocation of German unity, as yet in an inchoate state, might be reckoned upon to retrieve the mistakes of the ruling Sovereign and to secure the succession to his son. On the other hand, the President of the North German Confederation, reticent and self-restrained as he could be, had never lost sight of the policy of "blood and iron" which had been instilled into him by Count Bismarck. Avoiding all overt acts of offence, and habitually observing moderation in his demeanour, he nevertheless quietly perfected the organisation and equipment of his army, and completed most of the preparations which would enable him, at a fortnight's notice, to take the field with good hopes of success. Such was the attitude of the two Powers one to the other, when General Prim and the Regency of Spain offered the crown of that kingdom to a Hohenzollern. The Emperor seized the occasion for fastening a quarrel upon Prussia. The candidature of Prince Leopold was withdrawn. This did not satisfy the military advisers of the Empire, who forthwith dispatched Benedetti to Ems, where the King of Prussia was staying for his health, to demand his pledge that no member of his family should be allowed at any future time to ascend the Spanish throne. Whether the King really behaved with rudeness to the Imperial diplomatist is even now a matter of doubt; but there is no doubt that Count Bismarck sent a telegraphic account of the interview to Berlin, which made an impression (perhaps advisedly) upon both the French and German peoples that the King had affronted the Emperor's representative. Both Governments panted for war, but the Emperor had the indiscretion to declare it.

He placed himself at the head of his army, which he concentrated on the Rhine frontier. Europe paused breathlessly, in the expectation that he would push, without the loss of a day, into the territory of his foe, and interpose his troops between North and South Germany. A fortnight elapsed, and nothing beyond the melodramatic scene in which the Emperor submitted his son to a baptism of fire occurred. The Marshal who had boasted he was "ready, twice ready!" had been deceived by his subordinates or was himself the impostor. Nothing was ready, and there could be no immediate advance. Meanwhile, however, the Germans, well supplied with information, with piercing eyes and quick ears wherever they were needed, noiselessly massed themselves on their frontier. Their enemy had given them the fortnight they required. Then followed that remarkable series of fights and marches, marches and fights, which, beginning at Spicheren and culminating at Sedan, swept, without a single reverse, the whole area of Lorraine and Alsace, inclosed the Army of the Rhine and of Châlons, and, having shut up Bazaine at Metz and compelled the capitulation of M. Mahon's army at Sedan, achieved what seemed to be the natural completion of the campaign by the surrender of Napoleon as a prisoner of war to his foe.

Alas! this was not the close of the campaign. Paris extemporised a Republican Government of National Defence, and the Germans hastened westward to Paris. It is now upwards of three months since the close investment of that city of pleasure. Armies have been organised by the French, and sorties have been made by the Parisians, to break asunder the girdle of war by which the city has been surrounded, but in vain. There is no definite prospect of the close of the contest, and the death struggle between these two great nations will be going on while the Old Year is rung out, and, we fear, long after the New Year is rung in. Both Powers will retire at last exhausted by the protracted encounter, and convinced, we are fain to hope, that the true objects of rational life are not to be promoted by the instrumentality of war. Other European Powers—all of them, we mean—have not laid that lesson to heart in consequence of the countless and unimaginable mischiefs

they have looked upon. Within the last few weeks, Russia seemed to challenge the ill-will of Austria, France, Italy, and England, by giving notice that she would no longer be bound by the article of the Paris Treaty of 1856 which provides for the neutralisation of the Black Sea; and Prussia—accusing the Government of Luxemburg of infringing her neutrality as guaranteed by the London Treaty of 1867—threatened to do the like thing; but a conference will probably dispose of the first case, and the last case, more alarming as first represented than it was in reality, will very probably blow over.

We turn now to the affairs of the United Kingdom. Of course, they have been injuriously affected by the Franco-German war; but altogether we cannot look back upon them without seeing abundant cause for thankfulness. Politically, the year opened uneasily. Ireland, in expectation of a Land Bill, talked extravagantly in the imperative mood—and here and there Fenian disaffection and agrarian crime cropped up from the agitated surface of society. Parliament met in February—hopefully, but with an undercurrent of anxiety. It did two things—either one of which would have given renown to the Session. It passed an elaborate Land Act for Ireland, thoroughly protective of the interests of industrious tenants, while conservative of the just rights of landlords; and it enacted a scheme of elementary education for England and Wales, framed for the purpose of providing sufficient, efficient, and suitable instruction in the rudiments of letters for every child in the kingdom. These ends were not compassed without strenuous effort. The Irish Land Bill was many weeks under consideration before its clauses were finally agreed to, and was interrupted in its slow progress by the necessity which the rapid increase of agrarian outrages imposed upon the Government to pass the Peace Preservation Act. The Education Bill lingered long after it had got over the Parliamentary threshold, stirring no little ecclesiastical animosity in its advance, but received at last the sanction of both Houses. Both measures have come into operation under promising conditions; so much so that in Ireland the political prisoners have been amnestied; and in England educational zeal has greatly toned down sectarian zealotry.

The commercial and monetary affairs of the country have been neither highly prosperous nor ruinously depressed. The harvest may have been a trifle below the average, but was well gathered in. The weather, generally, has been seasonable. We have been favoured with a hot, dry summer—we are now in the very midst of a severe, old-fashioned winter. A larger than the average number of railway casualties have happened in a cluster within the last two months; and the wreck register of the year shows an increase of losses at sea. But the health of the population has not been exceptionally assailed by epidemics; and, but for the recent prevalence among cattle of the foot-and-mouth disease, we should say that man and beast have been favoured during the year with fair sanitary conditions.

Nor should we speak much less thankfully of our colonial possessions. Each of them, as we could recount were space at our disposal, has had trials to endure, but each has surmounted, or is in a fair way to surmount, them. We have not, as some predicted, cut loose the tie which unites us to the North American Dominion, nor have we witnessed the ruin of New Zealand. The West Indies have neither been perishing nor clamorous. Our relations with the United States have not been so settled as we could have wished, but they have not been unfriendly, and the mist which overhangs them lifts rather than otherwise. As a nation we have reason enough to be grateful; in our individual capacities, albeit "every heart knoweth its own bitterness," there is nothing to prevent us, we hope, from cordially wishing one another

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

The Fenian prisoners at Portland were set at liberty yesterday week.

On Jan. 1 the new Act in reference to the inland revenue will take effect. The statute repeals more than a hundred Acts on the same subject.

Mr. Cleghorn, on retiring from the secretaryship of the North-Eastern Railway Company, has been presented with a purse containing 1000 gs. and a silver inkstand. He has also been elected a director of the company.

Last week the aggregate mortality in London and nineteen other large towns of the United Kingdom was 26 deaths annually to every 1000 of the estimated population. In the metropolis 2083 births and 1377 deaths were registered—the former having been 214 above, and the latter 158 below, the average.

An influential meeting was held at Wrexham, last week, in furtherance of the scheme for establishing a university college in Wales. The Queen's Hotel at Aberystwith has been purchased for £10,000 for the purpose of the institution, and so soon as £30,000 has been raised it is proposed to apply to the Government for assistance. Mr. Gladstone has given the assurance of his personal sympathy with the object of the promoters of the scheme.

The members for Edinburgh addressed a meeting of their constituents, on Thursday week, in the Music Hall. Referring to the education question, both members expressed themselves in favour of an undenominational, but against a secular, system; and Mr. Miller advocated the introduction of a compulsory clause into the Scotch bill. Mr. Gladstone's letter to Mr. Dease regarding the Pope was condemned by both members. Speaking on foreign affairs, Mr. McLaren denounced the conduct of the Germans in carrying on the war after the capitulation of Sedan and the surrender of the French. He concurred with Mr. Miller in urging a purely defensive policy on the part of this country, and strongly deprecated any interference in Continental affairs.

## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

## SPAIN.

King Amadeus left Florence on Tuesday morning. His Majesty was accompanied by Prince Humbert, Prince of Carignano, the President of the Council, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, as far as Spezzia. The Minister of Marine will accompany the King to Madrid. General Cialdini is about to leave definitively for Madrid as the Italian Minister Plenipotentiary.

While Marshal Prim was proceeding to the Cortes from the Ministry of War, on Wednesday evening, some person fired at his carriage in the Calle Alcalá. The Marshal and one of his adjutants were wounded, but, so far, not dangerously.

A bill was submitted to the Cortes last week fixing the Civil List at 6,000,000 piasters, and the dotation of the Crown Prince at 500,000 piasters. The Royal domains are to be retained. A motion to close the debate on the proposition of Senor Robledo for the dissolution of the Cortes was rejected.

Senor Rivero, the President of the Cortes, has sent in his resignation, in consequence of the elections in the provinces; and Senor Sagosta has been intrusted with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs *ad interim*.

## ITALY.

In the sitting of the Italian Parliament yesterday week the House, after discussing the declaration of the Ministers in reference to the material difficulties in the way of an immediate transfer of the capital of Rome, approved the Government proposition that the transfer should take place within six months. The entire bill for the transfer was passed by 192 against 18 votes. The Chamber also approved a motion, brought forward by 200 members, expressing the gratitude of Florence for the patriotic conduct of the Romans during the siege. It then adjourned until Jan. 16.

## GERMANY.

The *New German (Cross) Gazette* states that the British Envoy, Mr. Odo Russell, on the 18th inst., "desired Count Bismarck to convey to the King of Prussia the congratulations of her Britannic Majesty's Government on the occasion of the request preferred by the German Princes, the Free Towns, and the North German Parliament, that the King of Prussia should accept the Imperial crown."

It is stated that Count Bismarck has sent a very courteous note to Vienna announcing the imminent reunion of Germany and hoping that the new Commonwealth and Austria will always entertain friendly relations. From Berlin we are told that the note was promptly acknowledged, and that the reply was of a most friendly character.

Two members of the Republican "Left" in the North German Parliament, Herren Liebknecht and Bebel, have been arrested and imprisoned on a charge of high treason.

Count Alfred Wedell, castellan to the ex-King of Hanover, has been tried at Berlin for high treason. The charge was that he contributed money towards the formation of the so-called Hanoverian Legion in 1867. The Court sentenced him to five years' imprisonment, and to five years' further disability to vote or act as jurymen.

The Upper House of the Bavarian Diet has voted the bill authorising the Government to continue provisionally the collection of the taxes. The treaties between Bavaria and the Northern Confederation were to be discussed on Friday.

The Wurtemberg Chamber of Deputies adopted the treaty with the North German Confederation by 74 votes against 14, and the treaty with Bavaria by 76 votes against 12. A resolution was then introduced approving the restoration of the German Empire, with the King of Prussia as Emperor, and was agreed to by 81 votes against 7.

The Lower House of Hesse-Darmstadt has approved the federal treaties, together with the supplementary modifications, by 40 votes against 3. The demand of the Minister of War for a credit of 3,662,000 fl. to continue the war has been unanimously agreed to.

## AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

The Archduke Albert of Austria urges a reorganisation and strengthening of the military power as essential to the very existence of Austria. He proposes that the Austrian infantry should be raised to 771,000, the cavalry to 60,000, and the guns to 1568; that the Enns line should be fortified, Olmutz and Comorn strengthened, Pesth and the Carpathian passes fortified, and Bohemia made more secure. The expense of these works is to be defrayed by a loan.

In reply to a memorandum of the Czech leaders on the position of Bohemia and the Black Sea question, Count Beust indicates some of the difficulties with which he has had to contend in the discharge of his functions as Minister for Foreign Affairs. It was, he says, his duty to direct the foreign policy of the monarchy in accordance with the greatness of its traditions, and to make the interests of Austria predominant in all its political relations. But, at a time when all the powers of the State should be gathered together, he found separation instead of union, contradiction and repudiation where the only true policy lay in collective action. Count Beust does not accuse Bohemia as a nation for this state of things, but he imputes the blame to those who have carried the spirit of partisanship so far as to enter into a conflict against the respect for law at home and the greatness and interests of the monarchy abroad, which can, he adds, only end, under the pressure of the moral and physical force of the nation, in grievous disappointment.

## TURKEY AND GREECE.

The expedition sent by the Porte to Yemen to act against the Assiyr Arab tribes is becoming more important. 16,000 men of all arms have already been dispatched, and other reinforcements will soon be sent.

The Greek Chambers were opened, last week, by Royal ordinance. There was no Speech from the Throne.

## AMERICA.

The Senate has confirmed General Schenck's appointment as United States Minister to London. The Senate, by 31 votes against 9, has passed a resolution authorising the President to appoint three Commissioners to proceed on a visit to San Domingo in order to investigate into its political condition and report the terms on which its annexation to the United States is desired. Mr. Sumner animadverted severely upon the course of President Grant regarding San Domingo, and charged the President with endeavouring to have him and Senators Schurz and Patterson removed from the Committee on Foreign Relations because they opposed his policy. Congress adjourned, on Thursday week, till Jan. 4.

The Georgia election has passed off quietly, and shows large Democratic gains. According to a New York telegram, there are indications of the Democrats having secured the Legislature and five out of the seven members for Congress.

Governor Holden, of North Carolina, who has been impeached for misconduct by the Legislature, has resigned.

Statistics which have been issued by the New York immi-



gration officers show that there reached that port, from January to Dec. 7 of the present year, 63,440 Irish and 70,307 Germans.

#### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Diamonds continue to be found in great numbers at the Cape. New mines are discovered, and the diggings now extend over a hundred miles of country. The population of the district has increased to 15,000. One lucky digger is said to have found two diamonds valued at £120,000. We hear from Natal that one party there had found diamonds to the value of £150,000. Many persons, however (it is stated), had been unsuccessful at the diggings, and some of them were suffering great privations in endeavouring to return to their homes. Mr. John Campbell had been appointed British magistrate at the diggings, not without a protest from the President of the Free State.

#### AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

We have news from Melbourne and Adelaide to the 6th, and from Sydney to the 3rd, inst. From New South Wales it is stated that the measurement duties proposed by the Ministry had been rejected by the Legislative Assembly; the Stamp Act had also been defeated. These defeats had caused a Ministerial crisis, and the resignation of the whole Cabinet was imminent. The Victoria Parliament was in Session, and had passed the estimates for the first six months of next year. The income was estimated at £3,500,000, and the expenditure at the same amount. The position of the Ministry was regarded as firm.

In South Australia the Free Selection Land Bill had passed. The estimates for the financial year showed a deficit of £200,000, which it was proposed to cover by an issue of bonds bearing 5 per cent interest.

From New Zealand the news is that the Parliament had been opened, telegraphs were being extended, and affairs generally were peaceful. Dissatisfaction was expressed at the delays which had occurred in the transits of the mails via San Francisco. Mr. Vogel has been appointed colonial agent.

Direct communication by cable between the United Kingdom and the Channel Islands was opened last week.

Part VII., new series, of *Transactions of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec* contains some excellent papers read in the session 1870—namely, "Evangeline" and the Archives of Nova Scotia, by Dr. W. J. Anderson, the president; on the Literature of Queen Anne's Reign, by the Bishop of Quebec; on recent Spectroscopic Observations of the Sun and the Total Eclipse of Aug. 7, 1864, by James Douglas, jun.; on the Canadian Eclipse Party, 1869, by Commander Ashe; and Military Operations at Quebec, from Sept. 18, 1759, to May 18, 1760, by Dr. Anderson.

#### THE WAR.

The bombardment, not of Paris, but of its defences, was begun on Tuesday morning, when the Saxon batteries opened against Fort Avron. This work, which under the hands of General Trochu's engineers has become of considerable importance, will not be found upon any but the very newest maps, as it is a creation of the last few weeks. It is constructed on the eastern slope of Mount Avron, an eminence lying directly in front of Fort Rosny, looking towards the Saxon position at Chelles, and commanding the gap which is open to Lagny and beyond it. It is a splendid position, from which the besieged can throw shells as far as Clichy, Montfermeil, and Chelles, and under cover of which their infantry columns can assemble for movements on the plain in front.

On Wednesday week there was another effort on the part of the besieged in Paris, directed northwards, as if to reach Faidherbe, operating outside. The French occupied Neuilly-sur-Marne, Valle Evard, and the Maison Blanche, and claim in the first instance to have silenced their enemy's fire on all points. After a severe artillery duel, Admiral La Roncière, with the troops of St. Denis, attacked Le Bourget, but could not maintain himself there, and returned with one hundred prisoners. General Ducrot made a fierce attack against the German batteries at Pont Iblon and Blanc Mesnil. To the west General Noel made a demonstration at Montretout and Buzenval; and here, we are told, the Gardes Mobiles took part in the action with great ardour. At night General Ducrot occupied the farm of Groslay and Grand Draney. General Trochu passed the night on the field of battle. In these operations the troops of Admiral La Roncière suffered severely; the others very little. The Germans, on their side, make little of the affair. Next morning, Thursday, there was another, but apparently fainter, effort in the same direction, upon Sevran and Chelles. A despatch, dated on Christmas Eve, says Friday night was the third that the French had bivouacked outside the city, where they stood the thermometer being 12 degrees below freezing point. On Saturday they seemed to be breaking up their bivouacs and falling back. It was believed that they expected the co-operation of the Army of the North, and their retreat is attributed to a knowledge of the victory obtained by Manteuffel over Faidherbe.

Dr. Russell, alluding to new works in progress below Mont Valérien, says he has watched them growing every day, and has arrived at the conclusion that General Trochu is forming a vast intrenched camp under the guns of the fort, into which he intends to retire when Paris is all but starved and the population is becoming troublesome. "The fort is in itself a little town; it is safe from fire; it commands Paris. Day after day I have seen long convoys of carts going along the road from Courbevoie to the rear of the fort, as if heavily laden, and returning briskly, as if light. The labour bestowed on the intrenchments and their extent indicate some large scheme. In good maps there is a windmill marked about 800 metres to the W.N.W. of Valérien. This is the centre of one great redoubt. There is another still larger, to the south of the Mill Battery; and beyond it, to the south again—that is, nearer to the German position—is yet another work, with its front defended by rifle-pits. There can be no question about the intention of these intrenched positions; they can cover a very large force."

Great preparations, we are told in sundry letters from the correspondents with the besieging armies, were made for the due celebration of Christmas in the camps. The *Times*' correspondent with the Saxons writes:—"No fewer than 6000 packets containing Christmas presents arrived in this village by field-post on the 18th. One mail that I saw draw up at the Amt, on Sunday afternoon, consisted of fifteen great two-horse waggons laden with sacks full of letter packets. On expressing my astonishment, I was told by the postmaster that this was only a portion of that day's mail; a division had been made at Lagny. Many of the packets contained Christmas-trees. As what I saw on Sunday was only about the half of one day's arrivals for one army corps, what must be the aggregate of all the gifts coming to all the German armies from relatives and friends in Fatherland?"

There was severe fighting both in the north and in the south of the theatre of war on Friday week.

In the north the action took place just outside Amiens, on

the north-east of that place. The Prussians were those under Manteuffel, and seem to have numbered about 40,000; the French, under Faidherbe ("the Army of the North"), were about 60,000. According to a German despatch, the French, holding the villages of Beaumont, Montigny, Teichencourt, Duerriex, Pont Noyelles, Bussy, Vecquemont, and Daours, were attacked and driven out of these positions, which were then held by the Prussians, despite violent attacks by the French, until night put an end to the action. Faidherbe had a numerous artillery, and from Lille the battle is described as an artillery duel, ending in a French bayonet attack along the whole line. Another German telegram says that, after the villages were taken, the enemy was driven back with heavy losses across the valley of the Hallu; and another telegram states that the "pursuit" was interrupted by night setting in. General Faidherbe himself describes the engagement as lasting from eleven o'clock in the morning until six in the evening, and says, "We remained masters of the field of battle after a long artillery engagement." Despatches from the same source on Christmas Day show, however, that the ultimate result was a withdrawal of the French. The Army of the North evacuated its cantonments at Corbie, Albert, and Ascheux, and concentrated round Arras. It has since withdrawn towards Lille.

On the same day there was fighting between General Chanzy and the Duke of Mecklenburg. A "serious engagement" it is termed by a despatch from Bordeaux, but where the battle actually occurred is not stated. Vendôme is mentioned in the telegram; and the description given of the fight is that the French occupied some heights which the Prussians attacked in great force, but that, being met by a murderous fire of mitrailleuses, the Prussians incurred losses "estimated at 4000 men."

The despatches indicate that the Germans had renounced the continuation of their march beyond Tours, and are falling back on Orleans. A Bordeaux telegram speaks of this as a retreat, and talks of its being accelerated by strategical movements of the French; but it is an obvious piece of prudence, on the German side, not to extend operations in this district too far. Tours, deserted by the French Government delegation, has been treated as of little importance. The Germans appeared before Tours on the morning of the 21st, and shortly afterwards opened a cannonade upon the town from the adjacent heights. Many shells fell into the streets and killed several persons. A flag of truce was then hoisted, and the Mayor proceeded to the German lines and requested that the cannonade might cease, which request was complied with.

French accounts declare that the army of Bourbaki is acquiring solidity, General Bourbaki being ably seconded by Generals Clinchamps and Billot. They add, what may fairly be confirmed from other sources, that the other fragment of the late Army of the Loire, General Chanzy's troops, has fought extremely well during the movements since the evacuation of Orleans. General Chanzy has arrived at Le Mans. The Prussians now hold the valley of the Loire from Gien to near Tours. Above Gien the Germans are stopped by French troops stationed at Briare and on the left bank of the Loire.

The indefatigable Gambetta has left Bourges to proceed to the Army of Lyons.

The Germans made two assaults on the forts of Belfort during Tuesday night, which were repulsed by the garrison with great loss to the besiegers.

The French fleet of fifteen ironclads arrived in Cherbourg harbour on Tuesday. The levies of troops in Cherbourg are being actively proceeded with, and the men are being inured to the hardships of campaigning.

On Christmas Day there was a skirmish near Yvetot between 7000 Prussian and 5000 French troops from Havre. After two hours' fighting the Prussians fell back, with the loss of 200 men and one gun dismounted. The French lost a hundred men.

A despatch from Havre states that the Prussians have seized six English vessels at Du Clair, on the Seine, and have scuttled and sunk them in order to impede the navigation. The Prussians, it is said, fired upon the crews, turned them adrift to sleep on the ground, and robbed them of money and other property. The vessels had discharged coals under Prussian permits, and were taking in ballast to return. Another telegram states that the Vice-Consul at Rouen has protested against this outrage. Letters from Havre state that the Commandant of Du Clair gave bonds for the value of the English vessels.

There was a review of the National Guards, amounting to between twenty and thirty thousand men, at Bordeaux, on Christmas Day. M. Crémieux made a speech in favour of the Republic, which was answered by loud cries of "Vive la République" by the National Guards and the immense crowds that were present.

From Berlin it is telegraphed that "a portion of the Supplementary Reserve has been called out to start for the front, after a short drill."

#### ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE WAR.

We continue to receive, by balloon post, sketches from our Artist in Paris, four of which are reproduced this week.

At the present time, the departure of balloons from Paris not only takes place at night, but the day fixed on is kept concealed from all save those immediately concerned, in order to avoid as far as possible the chances of its being communicated to the enemy, and thereby exposing the aeronautes and their precious freight to the fiery rockets and other projectiles with which the Germans are prepared to favour them. As in old times, the railway stations are still the places from which passengers and letters take their departure for the outside world; for they not only offer large open spaces in which to fill their balloons, but, being situated away from the centre of Paris, there is less risk of these in their ascent coming in contact with buildings. The Engraving on page 676 represents the departure of one of these balloons from the Gare du Nord at half-past eleven o'clock at night. The balloons start from one of the courtyards of the station, which is lighted up with the lamps belonging to the now disused locomotives. Perfect silence is maintained whilst the necessary preparations are made, and the shrill whistle of M. Dartois directing the sailors engaged in performing the various operations is the only sound heard. About half an hour previous to the time fixed for the departure, a post-office van arrives with the sacks of letters and the copies of the *Journal Officiel* intended to serve as ballast. These are at once placed in the car, to which is also attached (as shown in our sketch) a basket containing pigeons and addressed, "Pigeons—To be immediately forwarded to Tours." M. Rampout walks about superintending the arrangements; and if the night should be foggy and the wind favourable the countenance of the Director-General of the Post Office is beaming with satisfaction, for he knows that the balloon will both leave without being perceived by the enemy and will fall far outside their lines. The car has been fixed on, the aeronaut and his passengers have already taken their places, the former

clad in a light-coloured fur coat, to shield him from the intense cold of the upper regions of the atmosphere, when an aide-de-camp of General Trochu arrives out of breath. His despatch is handed to the aeronaut, the command "Let go!" is given, and the balloon soars majestically into the air. The spectators watch it clear the glazed roof of the station, and it disappears into the night, but for a few moments after they can still hear the adieux of the travellers, who are carrying with them into the outer world so many messages of love and hope from the sorrowful inhabitants of the beleaguered city.

One of the finest engineering works of Paris is the bridge and railway viaduct across the Seine at Auteuil. Since the siege the upper tier of arches has been walled up on the side towards St. Cloud, loopholes being left in them for musketry, in the event of the Prussians attempting to force the passage of the Seine. Some few of the arches have been turned into store-places for hay and straw, while the remainder serve as barracks for the Gardes Mobiles, who are thus sheltered alike from the projectiles of the enemy and in a less degree from the severity of the weather. Anyone passing along the road at any hour of the day is certain to witness an animated scene. The French soldier, whether veteran or conscript, knows how to make himself as comfortable as circumstances will admit. Certain of these raw youths will be engaged in cooking their rations of *viande de cheval*, to which they took very readily shortly after the commencement of the siege, only the Bretons having displayed a repugnance for it; and, as they have invariably fought well, and have, moreover, a friend at head-quarters—General Trochu being himself a Bas-Breton—such pigs as remained in Paris were reserved for them, and they received daily rations of pork as long as it lasted; others among these young soldiers will be reading the *sou* war gazettes of the day aloud to their comrades, cleaning their chassepots and accoutrements, or washing their clothes, or, for want of some more improving occupation, playing at pitch-and-toss.

Every available spot in the beleaguered city is turned to use for the purpose of drilling raw recruits into soldiers, and of perfecting them in the use of their several arms. Thus, in an inclosure behind Notre Dame, as shown in the Illustration on page 672, some artillerymen of the National Guards are taught expertness in the handling of their guns. The French are at length awake to the importance of artillery, having learnt many a hard lesson on this point; and are making strenuous exertions, in Paris and elsewhere, to compete with their foe in this arm of the service.

The Parisians have taken, and are still taking, extraordinary precautions to preserve their works of art in case of a bombardment. Pictures have been packed away in dry cellars, and important works of statuary that are movable have been put in places of safety. One of the Engravings on page 685 shows the measures taken to preserve the bas-reliefs of Jean Goujon and the statues in the western part of the Louvre called the Old Louvre. The view is taken from the left of the Pavillon de l'Horloge, and some of the windows are shown blocked up, and a few of the bas-reliefs covered with plaster. The Louvre was begun by Francis I., who demolished an edifice which existed on the same site. Henry II. made additions, and Charles IX. augmented it again. Henry IV. built that part which runs by the side of the river, and succeeding monarchs further improved it. But Napoleon III. completed the work. Jean Goujon, who designed the fine façade of the old Louvre, and other works, which procured him the title of the French Phidias, was a Protestant, and was murdered in the massacre of St. Bartholomew, in 1572.

When the Germans re-entered Orleans, on the 5th inst., they converted its grand old cathedral into a prison, and thrust into it as many thousands of their prisoners as the place would hold. Several hundreds were still there when the *Times*' correspondent visited Orleans some days afterwards. He thus describes the scene which our Artist has depicted on the first page:—"Inside the rails of the façade the soldiers had made a camping-ground; and it was a mass of filth, in the midst of which, grouped round fires, were bodies of prisoners. On entering, the smoke these fires made inside was so dense that I could scarcely see a dozen yards. All the chairs had been appropriated, either to make fires with or to sit upon round them; and the din of voices, the crackle of burning wood, the blinding smoke, the songs of the light-hearted Zouave, and loud voices of the Germans, all intermingled, produced a strange effect. But when, in the midst of this unholy din, the solemn strains of the organ pealed through the church, and the bright rays of the setting sun streaming through its gorgeous windows lit up the wild, uncouth groups that were smoking and singing, and cooking round their fires, and for a moment shot rays across the aisle which seemed to penetrate the dense smoke and flood it with a divine light, sacrilege seemed to have attained its climax. But it had not quite done so. Breaking short off from the solemn march which had for a second arrested the attention of even the reckless spirits who were now congregated here, the organ suddenly burst into an attempt at a jig—it seemed to have gone mad—under the impression of a musical Zouave. It launched forth into the wildest strains. Hanging eagerly over the musician, who was really an accomplished artist, and made the organ perform wonderfully comical feats, was a delighted group of Turcos, jabbering to each other in Arabic, and evidently highly pleased with the performance. Stimulated by their applause, the Zouave made frantic efforts; the crowd, which had rapidly collected, called loudly to invisible companions behind the organ for more wind, and the fun was waxing fast and furious, when, looking round, I saw a priest in tears. Standing near him were two ladies in black giving bread to the hungry crowd. The steps of the altar had been so desecrated that it was impossible to approach it; and a few lively spirits having thrown some cartridges into the fire, the smoke produced became so great that we were obliged to rush to the doors to get a whiff of fresh air; and I was not sorry to be driven from a scene which fascinated while it revolted."

An extraordinary episode of the battle near Orleans on Sunday, the 4th inst., is depicted on page 673. A body of French cavalry, on seeing some infantry at a distance beginning to retire, became panic-stricken, and a stampede ensued, which it is difficult, indeed almost impossible, to render or describe. There were cavalry-men of nearly every arm, from the ponderous cuirassier to the African spahi, all of whom joined in a breathless flight, carrying with them every thing in their way. Colonel Reilly, the English military attaché, Dr. Pratt, chief of the Anglo-American Ambulance, and our Artist were swept away by the avalanche, till it was stopped by a block of artillery.

St. Malo, a fortified seaport town on the English Channel, has not been behind the rest of France in preparing measures of defence. An Engraving is given on page 685 showing the drilling of mobilised National Guards on the quay. As was to be expected, the seafaring part of the population forms a considerable element in the ranks. The sabots which most of the young soldiers wear must make their movements rather stiff and ungainly, yet many of them will, no doubt, do good service, if required, for their country. St. Malo was the birthplace of Jacques Cartier, the discoverer of Canada.





ARTILLERY OF THE NATIONAL GUARDS, PARIS, AT EXERCISE NEAR NOTRE DAME (SKETCH BY BALLOON POST.)





A STAMPEDE OF FRENCH CAVALRY AT THE BATTLE OF ORLÉANS.



## BIRTHS.

On Christmas Eve, at 32, Chester-street, Belgrave-square, the wife of Frederick J. Robinson, of a son, stillborn.

On the 19th inst., at Malabar-hill, Bombay, the wife of Adam M. Rogers, Esq., Surgeon H.M. Bombay Army and Presidency Surgeon, Bombay, of a son.

On the 22nd inst., at Norton Leas, Sheffield, the wife of Edward M. E. Welby, Esq., barrister-at-law, of a son.

On the 27th inst., at Hanger-hill, Ealing, the wife of Alex. Brown, Esq., of a daughter.

On the 26th inst., at East Head House, Fremington, North Devon, the widow of the late D. K. W. H. Welby-Parry, of Noyadd Trefawr, Cardiganshire, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGES.

On the 20th inst., at St. James's, Piccadilly, by the Rev. E. W. Cory, M.A., Vicar of Meldreth, Herts, Alfred Christian Loughton, Esq., Constantinople, to Clara, younger daughter of the late Stephen Hill, Esq., Rainham, Essex. No cards.

On the 15th inst., at St. George's, Bloomsbury, by the Rev. Joseph Mould, M.A., Incumbent of Woburn Episcopal Chapel, Ernest, son of Charles Watson, Esq., of Belsyn House, Barnsbury, to Mary Amelia Heath, daughter of J. C. D. Dean, of Bexley-road, Erith, and Fearnhead, Bexley, Kent. No cards.

## DEATHS.

On Sept. 3, at Murrumbidgee, Victoria, Australia, of apoplexy, Charles George Godwin, formerly of London (leaving a widow and two children), aged 41.

On the 23rd inst., at East Head House, Fremington, North Devon, David K. W. H. Welby-Parry, of Noyadd Trefawr, J.P. and D.L. for the county of Cardigan, aged 37.

On the 9th inst., at The Cottage, Framingham Pigot, near Norwich, Sarah, the beloved wife of John Day, Esq., and youngest daughter of the late Adam Taylor, Esq., of Norwich, aged 51.

On the 22nd inst., at Gloucester, James Jackson Selby, of the firm of Robert Selby and Sons, London, eldest surviving son of the late Robert Selby, of 124, Fenchurch-street, E.C., aged 45.

On the 24th inst., the forty-fifth anniversary of her wedding day, Maria Ann, the dearly beloved and affectionate wife of George Aylwin, Loughborough-road, Brixton, deeply lamented, in her 67th year.

On the 24th inst., at St. George's-square, S.W., Mrs. Lansdown, of Bedford-place, Russell-square, widow of J. Lansdown, Esq., formerly of Chester-terrace, Regent's Park.

On the 24th inst., at Upper Maze-hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sophia, widow of the late Samuel Edward Norris, of Upper Clapton, in her 67th year.

On Sept. 10, in South Africa, from the accidental discharge of a gun, deeply regretted, John Donaldson Reeves, Esq., of Weldon Lodge, Lawrie Park, Sydenham, barrister-at-law, M.A. of Trinity College, Cambridge, only son of the late John Gibson Reeves, Esq., of Moseley, near Birmingham.

On the 22nd inst., at the Bell Hotel, Gloucester, suddenly, from an attack of pleurisy, James Jackson Selby, of 24, Stockwell Park-crescent, S.W., and 124, Fenchurch-street, eldest surviving son of the late Robert Selby, aged 45. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

On the 26th inst., at Dalhousie House, William Guild, Esq., in his 81st year.

On the 23rd inst., the Rev. Ignatius Seager, Priest of the Archdiocese of Westminster, and younger son of Charles Seager, M.A., in his 26th year.

\* \* \* The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 7, 1871.

SUNDAY, January 1, 1871.—First Sunday after Christmas. Circumcision. Divine Worship: St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m. the Rev. John Henry Coward, M.A., Minor Canon, special evening service, 7 p.m., the Bishop of London.—Chapels Royal, Whitehall, morning and evening, the Rev. W. F. Erskine Knollys, M.A., Rector of Saltwood; St. James's, morning, the Rev. Francis Garden, M.A., Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal; Savoy, 11.30 a.m., the Rev. Henry White, M.A., Chaplain of the Savoy and of the House of Commons; 7.0 p.m., the Rev. Stopford Brooke, M.A., Chaplain to the Queen.

MONDAY, 2.—Institution of Civil Engineers founded (Thomas Telford, president), 1818. British Museum closed for a week. Meetings: Royal Asiatic Society, 3 p.m.; Entomological Society, 7 p.m.; Medical Society, 3 p.m. Royal Academy Exhibition of Old Masters opens, 9 a.m.

TUESDAY, 3.—The British and French Fleets enter the Black Sea, by request of the Sultan, 1854. Meetings: Anthropological Society, 8 p.m.; Zoological Society, 9 p.m.; Royal Institution Lecture, 3 p.m. (Professor Odling on Burning and Unburning).

WEDNESDAY, 4.—The Amazon, steam mail-ship, burnt at sea (Eliot Warburton, the author, and above one hundred persons perished), 1852.

THURSDAY, 5.—Battle of Nancy (Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy, defeated and slain by the Swiss), 1477. Royal Institution Lecture, 3 p.m. (Professor Odling on Burning and Unburning); Royal Academy Lecture, 8 p.m. (Mr. Cope on Painting).

FRIDAY, 6.—Epiphany. Old Christmas Day. Full moon, 9.24 p.m. Eclipse of the moon, partially visible at Greenwich. Meeting: Geological Association, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, 7.—Calais taken from the English, 1558. Royal Horticultural Society (promenade), 2 p.m.; Royal Institution Lecture, 3 p.m. (Professor Odling on Burning and Unburning).

## TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 7.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
9 47	10 22	10 55	11 24	11 52	—	0 19

## THE WEATHER.

## RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE NEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOM.		WIND.		Miles.	In.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum, read at 10 A.M.	Maximum, read at 10 P.M.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.		
Dec. 14	29.74	51.6	49.3	92	0-10	44.6	56.5	SSW. SW.	409	409	110
15	29.503	46.4	45.4	96	10	41.7	48.0	SSW.	90	600	—
16	29.850	41.6	38.8	90	10	40.0	43.6	WSW. E. NE.	204	248	—
17	30.022	38.8	36.5	92	6	37.2	42.8	NNE. NNW.	172	000	—
18	—	—	—	—	—	33.2	47.5	SW. W.	428	000	—
19	29.727	49.4	46.6	91	10	40.2	50.9	W. WSW.	419	070	—
20	29.611	43.9	37.5	80	6	41.1	47.2	WNW. NW.	392	000	—
21	29.866	28.9	22.0	80	9	—	30.4	E. NE. NE.	420	—	—
22	29.941	24.3	20.7	87	7	22.6	26.8	N. NE. NE.	187	—	—
23	29.944	24.9	21.3	88	1	17.0	23.8	N. NNW.	104	—	—
24	29.745	19.9	19.0	97	—	13.7	27.9	NNW. E.	72	—	—
25	—	—	—	—	—	11.8	29.7	E. ENE. NE.	215	—	—
26	29.882	29.4	26.3	96	9	17.7	33.6	N. NNE.	200	—	—
27	29.638	2.2	2.2	46	9	22.8	29.7	N. NNE.	345	—	—

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m. :—

DEC. 14 TO DEC. 20.											
Barometer (in inches) corrected	29.105	29.567	29.856	30.005	30.118	29.851	29.620	Temperature of Air	55.6°	45.7°	42.6°
Temperature of Air	55.6°	45.7°	42.6°	39.5°	41.0°	50.6°	44.9°	Temperature of Evaporation	54.3°	44.8°	41.6°
Temperature of Evaporation	54.3°	44.8°	41.6°	38.9°	40.2°	49.2°	41.9°	Direction of Wind	SSW.	SSW.	WSW
Direction of Wind	SSW.	SSW.	WSW	NNE.	SW.	W.	WNW				

DEC. 21 TO DEC. 27.

Barometer (in inches) corrected 29.915 29.950 29.986 29.775 29.736 29.847 29.914  
Temperature of Air 39.5° 39.5° 39.5° 39.5° 39.5° 39.5° 39.5°  
Temperature of Evaporation 39.5° 39.5° 39.5° 39.5° 39.5° 39.5° 39.5°  
Direction of Wind ENE. NE. N. NNW. E. N. NE.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. THE NINTH ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES BY THE MEMBERS IS NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 5, Pall-mall East. Ten till Five. Admission 1s. Gas on dark days. ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

THE COAST OF NORWAY. An Exhibition of Drawings and Paintings, by ELIJAH WALTON, including "The Midnight Sun."—PALL-MALL GALLERY, 48, Pall-mall (Mr. W. M. Thompson's). Admission, with Catalogue, 1s. Ten till Dusk.

DORÉ GALLERY.—GUSTAVE DORÉ, 35, New Bond-street.—EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, including CHRISTIAN MARTYRS, MONASTERY, FRANCE-GA DE RIMINI, TITANIA, &c., at the New Gallery. Open Ten till Six. Gas at Dusk. Admission, 1s.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. THE WINTER EXHIBITION of Sketches and Studies is now OPEN DAILY, from Nine till Six, at the Gallery, 53, Pall-mall. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

## INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION of 1871.—The

Exhibition will consist of the following Divisions—  
1. Fine Arts of all kinds, including Music.  
2. The following Classes of Manufactures :—Pottery of all kinds (including terra-cotta), with machinery in motion. Woollen and Worsted Fabrics, with machinery in motion. Educational Works and Appliances.  
3. Scientific Inventions and New Discoveries.  
Persons proposing to take part in this Exhibition should intimate their intention of submitting objects for selection before Dec. 31.  
Forms of application may be obtained from Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Y. D. Scott, R.E., Secretary, Offices of her Majesty's Commissioners, Upper Kensington-gore, London, W.

## INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION of 1871.

FAN COMPETITION.  
1. Her Majesty the QUEEN has been graciously pleased to notify to her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1871 her intention to offer a prize of £40 (1000fr.) for the Best Fan exhibited in the International Exhibition of 1871, being either a Work of Painting or Carving or a combination of both, and executed by a Female Artist, or Artistes, under twenty-five years of age.  
2. Mrs. Herbert Taylor offers a Prize of £25 for the Second-Best Fan.  
3. The Lady Cornelia Guest and the Baroness Meyer de Rothschild each offer a Prize of £10 for the Two Fans next in the order of merit.  
4. A further Prize of £10 has been offered by Messrs. Howell, James, and Co.  
5. These Prizes will be awarded subject to the same conditions as those decided on by her Majesty for the First Prize.  
The Conditions of the Competition may be obtained on application at the Offices of her Majesty's Commissioners, Upper Kensington Gore, London, W.  
HENRY Y. D. SCOTT, Lieutenant-Colonel, R.E., Secretary to her Majesty's Commissioners.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—PANTOMIME DAILY at Three.  
GULLIVER.—Written by H. B. Farnie; Produced by E. T. Smith. 150 Children; 500 Performers.  
"Nothing could be better mounted; the scenery appropriate and well painted; the dresses superb, and the grouping artistic."—Standard, Dec. 27.  
For Details, see Daily Papers.

MISS CAROLINE PARKES, Gulliver; PERCY ROSELLE, Emperor of Lilliput; Miss Thirlwall, Messrs. Yarnold, Friend, Jones, &c. Middle Solke, and Forty Ladies of the Ballet. Gorgeous Transformation and other Scenes, by Mr. F. Fenton. Boars of laughter at Scenes in Lilliput and Brobdignag. Pantomime has been witnessed by nearly 100,000 persons.  
Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d.; and 1s. for all the Amusements. A large reduction on taking 10.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Senores GONZA and ROMAH, the Marvellous MEXICAN ATHLETES, Daily at 12.30.  
"The skill, dexterity, and precision with which their feats are accomplished entitle them to be described as marvellous."—Standard, Dec. 27.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—DAILY, at 12.30, VAULTERS, Brothers Daniels, Musical Clowns, Performing Goat, D'Auban and Wardle's Pantomime Ballet, Mexican Athletes, &c., and brilliantly illuminated Every Evening.  
NOTE.—Palace agreeably warmed Daily, and brilliantly illuminated Every Evening.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—GIANT CHRISTMAS-TREE, Great Fancy Fair, Pantomime, Early Entertainments, &c.  
Monday to Friday, Saturday Days; Saturday, Half a Crown, or by Guinea Season Tickets. Present issue, dating twelve months from Jan. 1, at all entrances. Children under Twelve, 10s. 6d. "The most acceptable of New-Year's Gifts."  
Original War Sketches in Picture Gallery and Innumerable Attractions. Skating and Curling during the Frost on Great Basin and Lakes.  
The Palace itself is ablaze with light, and even more than ever brilliant in colour."—Standard, Dec. 27.

MADAME ARABELLA GODDARD at the BALLAD CONCERT, on WEDNESDAY NEXT.

MR. SANTLEY at the BALLAD CONCERT, on WEDNESDAY NEXT.

LONDON BALLAD CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL.  
FIFTH SEASON. The New Series of Concerts will consist of Six, to be given on the FIRST SIX WEDNESDAYS of 1871. The following Artists are engaged to appear at the First Concert, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 4.—Miss Edith Wynne and Miss Arabella Smyth, Middle, Drasidell and Madame Patey; Mr. W. H. Cummings and Mr. Santley, Piano-forte, Madame Arabella Goddard. The Part Music under the direction of Mr. Fielding. Conductor, Mr. J. L. Hatton. The Programmes will contain a great number of New Songs and Ballads written expressly for these Concerts by F. Benedict, Arthur Sullivan, J. L. Hatton, L. Molloy, Frederick Clay, E. H. Cowen, Conyn Vaughan, Hamilton Aide, Miss Philip, and Miss Gabriel. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Tickets to be had of Austin, St. James's Hall; Chappell and Co., New Bond-street; Keith, Prowse, and Co., 48, Cheapside; Hay, Royal Exchange-buildings; and Boosey and Co., Holles-street.

SATURDAY POPULAR CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL.  
Madame Schumann, Madame Norman-Neruda, Mr. Charles Hallé, Herr Joachim, M. Salomon, Signor Piatelli, Herr Stockhausen, &c., will appear at the SEVEN MORNING PERFORMANCES to be given on SATURDAY, JAN. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, March 4 and 11, 1871, for the Subscription-Tickets to the Sofa-Stalls are issued at 21 10s. each, and to the Balcony at 18s. each.—Chappell and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL.  
The Concerts will be resumed on MONDAY EVENING, JAN. 9, when the Programme will include Schumann's quintet, for piano and strings; Mozart's quartet in G major, for strings; Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata, for piano alone; and Beethoven's Romance in F, for violin. Executants—Madame Sanvady (Wilhelmina Claus), M.M. Sivori, L. Ries, Straus, and Piatelli. Vocalist—Herr Stockhausen. Sofa Stalls, 25s.; Balcony, 18s.; Admission, 1s. Programmes and Tickets at Chappell and Co.'s, 50, New Bond-street; and at Austin's, 28, Piccadilly.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—THE CHRISTY MINSTRELS' CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES, given every Afternoon and Evening during the past week in the Great Hall, achieved a success truly marvellous. Notwithstanding the vast accommodation afforded for the Holiday Visitors, it proved altogether inadequate to the demand for places. At each performance, long before the hour of commencement, some thousands of persons were unable to obtain admission to any part of the Hall. On Boxing Day upwards of seven thousand persons paid for admission to the two performances—undoubtedly the greatest return given by any place of amusement in London.  
ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—The extraordinary success of the CHRISTY MINSTRELS' HOLIDAY PROGRAMME fully justifies the Management in announcing its repetition EVERY NIGHT, and also on every Wednesday and Saturday Afternoon, until further notice. Fauteuils, 5s.; Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Doors open at 7.30 for the Evening Performance, and at 2.30 for the Day Performance. Tickets and places may be secured fourteen days in advance, on application at Austin's Ticket Office, St. James's Hall, daily, from Nine till Six; and at Mr. Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. Moore and Frederick Burgess.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—THE CHRISTY MINSTRELS' Great Holiday Programme Every Night at Eight, Wednesdays and Saturdays at Three and Eight, until further notice. All the new Songs, Dances, and Burlesques, introduced last week with such unqualified success.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moore and Burgess.

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED will appear in AGES MAGO with a new Musical Tour, entitled BADEN BADEN and THE RIVAL COMPOSERS.—ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. Every Evening, except Saturday, at Eight; Thursday and Saturday, at Three. Admission, 1s., 2s., 3s., and 5s.

EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.—Twice Daily.—Mornings at 2.30, Evenings at Eight.—POOLE and YOUNG'S PANORAMA depicting the GREAT BATTLE of WATERLOO and MAGNIFICENT SCENERY on the RHINE, the SAAR, the MOSELLE, and the REINE. The Colossal Dioramas of Paris, Berlin, Strasbourg, and Metz. Prices, 3s., 2s., and 1s.; Juveniles half price. Tickets at Mitchell's Royal Library, Old Bond-street.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.—Lessee and Manager, F. B. Chatterton.—Morning Performances of the Grand Pantomime every Wednesday and Friday, and on SATURDAY, JAN. 2, for Majesty's Servants will perform a New and Original Farce, entitled RULE BRITANNIA. A Farce which will be produced the Drury Lane Grand Comic Christmas Annual, entitled THE DRAGON OF WAXLEY; or, Harlequin and Old Mother Shipton. Written by E. L. Blanchard, with Characteristic Scenery by William Beverley. Characters in the Opening by Misses Victoria Vokes, Jessie Vokes, Rosina Vokes, and Harriet Covey; Messrs. Fred Vokes, P. Moreland, Fawdon Vokes, H. Naylor, and Charles Steyne. In the Harlequinade, Messrs. F. Evans and W. H. Harvey, Clowns; Paul Herring and J. Morris, Pantaloons; Misses Rosina Vokes and Jessie Vokes, Columbines; Miss Lizzie Grosvener, Harlequina; the Pocket Sims Reeves, Mr. Collard; with various other attractions. The Music arranged by Mr. W. G. Levey; the Ballets, Grouping, and Children's Scenes arranged by Mr. John Cornack; the whole produced under the direction of Mr. Edward Stirling. Prices from Sixpence to Five Guineas. Doors open from Half-past Six. Commence at Seven o'clock. Box Office open from Ten till Five daily.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—On MONDAY NEXT, and during the Week, at Seven, THE POOR SOLDIER; after which, at a Quarter to Eight, THE PALACE OF TRUTH.—Messrs. Buckstone, Kendal, Everill, Clark, Rogers, and Braid; Messdames Robertson, Chippendale, C. Hill, F. Wright, and Fanny Wynne; followed by UNCLE'S WILL.—Mr. Kendal and Miss Robertson; and THE SPECTRE BRIDEGRROOM. Box Office open daily from Ten till Five.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Last Nights of FERNANDE. Messrs. Farrow, Leeson, Lyn Rayne, Gaston Murray, and Lionel Brough; Mrs. Herman Farrow, Mrs. Leeson, Miss Brough Turner, and Mrs. John Wood; at Seven, TO OBLIGE BENSON; FERNANDE at 7.45; the Great Burlesque, BOMBASTES FURIOSO, at 10.30. Box Office Eleven to Six.

ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE and CIRCUS.—Triumphant reception of the splendid New Company. Milla, Clotilde, the greatest living Equestrienne; M. Neiss, the unequalled equestrian sans selle; Mr. A. Bradbury, in his unparalleled act of riding nine bare-backed horses at one time, nightly received with shouts of applause. Screams of laughter evoked by "Punch and Judy," the comic mules, introduced by Price and Benham, the two imitable humorists; the Brothers Daniels, funnier than ever; Papeta, the Performing Elephant, cleverer than ever. The entire press unanimously of opinion that the entertainment at the Amphitheatre, Holborn, is the best ever given in this country. Open at Seven; commence at Half-past. Morning Performances every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday throughout the Holidays. Open at Two; commence at Half-past.

THE CIRCUS in Holborn.—So much regret having been expressed at the departure of the Performing Elephant, at the moment of the children's recital, determined Mr. Churman to re-engage PAPEA. This extraordinary animal will, however, appear for a very limited period only. From a similar motive, those unrivalled gymnastic violinists, the Brothers Lavater Lee, have also been re-engaged, and will appear alternately with those humorous musical glee-queens, the Brothers Daniels.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE.—Immense Success of the New Pantomime, RIDE A COCK-HORSE TO BANBURY CROSS; or, Harlequin and the Silver Amazons. Morning Performances Every Monday and Thursday, at 12.30. Pantomime Every Evening, at Seven.

## NEW POSTAL TARIFF.

Subscribers to the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS can now be supplied by post, direct from the Office, 198, Strand, W.C., at the reduced rate of £1 5s. 8d. per annum, or 6s. 5d. per quarter, to be paid in advance. This subscription will cover the ordinary Double Numbers and the special Christmas Supplements.

Post-Office Orders should be made payable to the Publisher.

The Subscription for Copies which are to be sent Abroad varies according to the amount required for their transmission.

The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS can be obtained at any of the Railway Bookstalls in England and Wales for 5d. each single Number. Notice of any difficulty in buying the paper at this price should be sent to the Publisher, 198, Strand, W.C.

## TO ADVERTISERS.

The increasing demand for the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS renders it necessary to go to press with it earlier in the week, it is therefore requested that Advertisements be for the future sent in on Wednesdays at the latest.

Office, 198, Strand, W.C.

## THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1870.

The year departs amid the roar of cannon, but for no jubilee. The Germans have solemnised their Christmas with such "mimed rites" as a camp allows, and now announce that they will complete the work which has dragged them from Fatherland. The guns have opened upon Mount Avron, and may be firing while we write, the avowed intention being to reduce that fort as the first step towards the reduction of the capital. Of course both military and non-military readers form their opinions as to whether this special attack is regarded at Versailles as of the importance which is attributed to it, or whether other operations may not really be the serious ones on which Von Moltke is bent. But the fact that the period of suspense appears to be over, and that the curtain has risen for the last act of the fearful drama, is what will long be remembered in connection with the termination of 1870.

We are told by those who are satisfied with their own means of obtaining knowledge that, should Mount Avron fall, some of M. von Bismarck's "bouquets of shells" will be the New-Year's gifts from Allemania to Lutetia. It is hoped in the German army that Paris will be more than satisfied with a few instalments of the kind. We are also assured that it is not the intention of General Trochu to give the besiegers an excuse for shelling the beautiful city. One who seldom writes without book states his belief that Trochu means, when the bombardment becomes serious, to retire to Fort Valérien, which has been tremendously strengthened and abundantly victualled. Then Paris will be mercifully left to itself—that is to say, its defenders will not be persevering in a resistance which would justify the Germans in pouring fire upon the city. There is much plausibility in this idea; but so many conjectures throughout the campaign have proved fallacious that we have learned to look coldly on prediction. There is this to be said for the idea—it is a soldier's; and Trochu—"the sad Breton"—is emphatically a soldier. His avowed object, of course, is to defend the capital; but the object dearest to his heart is to maintain untarnished the military honour of France. When the accounts of the war are made up and balanced, we believe that it will be seen that this General—a man of rigid morality, a steadfast foe of Imperialism and all its traditions—will have done more, single-handed, to vindicate the soldierly character of the nation than all the Imperial and Republican Generals put together. It will be quite in keeping with his views should he content himself, as far as Paris is concerned, with having stricken a series of gallantly meant but almost useless blows; and should he then carry out a resolution to sever the citizen from the military element, and, leaving the capital to a doom which will not be very severe, declare that the combat thenceforth should be between himself and the Emperor of Germany.

But all that we really know up to the moment of writing is that the cannon have played upon Mount Avron, and that it is believed that a more general bombardment is to open the new year. The situation is so grim and stern that it needs no words to deepen its gloom. Twelve months back we passed from the old year to the new amid a perfect stagnation, or it might be more gracious to write that we were permitted to enjoy the socialities of the season without a single disturbing incident. Recurring to the records of that period, there is scarcely a topic which we can now select as an event. France was looking forward to the reforms to be carried out by Ollivier, who went into the war with "a light heart," and whose lightness has caused him to vanish from the eyes of his countrymen. Germany was, no doubt, making the preparations which were to help her to triumph, but she gave no sign, and called for no special notice when the condition of Europe was being surveyed. The volcano slumbered, but the subterranean forces were busily at work. Europe was



tranquil, and the speculations as to the future King of Spain, a nomination that was to be the signal for such mighty events, had become almost ludicrous. We were so idle that we could afford to waste attention on the early meetings of the Ecumenical Council, which was to crown with a supernatural glory the aged priest who is now petulantly bewailing himself in the private chambers of the Vatican, and inflicting on the world all the small revenge in his power by excluding strangers from the sight of the treasures of a mythology older than his own.

Nations, no more than individuals, know what a day may bring forth. It is permitted to us to end this year at peace with all mankind, and we may also be permitted to hope for the continuance of that blessing; but it would be presumptuous to build upon chances. It is clearly the duty of England to prepare herself for whatever may occur, and we rejoice to be able to say that we have faith in a rumour that the conviction of this duty has reached the higher authorities. It is said in the inner circle that a very important change is about to be made in the War Department, and that a gentleman who could have assumed work so apart from his tastes only out of a sense of duty to his country and his party will speedily be relieved, and will probably enter upon a more dignified, but less responsible, office. We are also told that his place will be filled by one of the most experienced, and also one of the most resolute, of the Generals who have made their names in India. If this be so, it is a sign that Mr. Gladstone has steadily considered the signs of the times, and has read them aright. There is only one thing more dear to the British nation than peace, and that one thing is honour. It is satisfactory to end the story of the year with a well-grounded belief that those in whose charge are the nation's destinies appreciate the nation's feelings.

### THE COURT.

The Queen distributed the customary gifts on Christmas Eve to the wives and children of the labourers upon the Royal estate at Osborne, Isle of Wight. Her Majesty, accompanied by the members of the Royal family, entered the servants' hall at four o'clock, the recipients of the royal bounty having previously assembled there. The ladies and gentlemen in waiting, and the Rev. George and Mrs. Prothero, with their family, were present during the distribution of the gifts by the Queen and the Royal family. Prince Arthur, attended by Colonel Elphinstone, arrived at Osborne House from Greenwich Park. Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Ponsonby dined with her Majesty.

On Christmas Day the Queen, Princess Louise, and Princess Beatrice, attended Divine service at Whippingham church. The Rev. George Prothero and the Rev. John Dalton officiated.

The Queen, with the Princes and Princesses, has taken her usual walking and driving exercise during the week. Prince Arthur has had good sport shooting upon the Royal demesne.

The Duchess Dowager of Athole has succeeded Lady Waterpark as Lady in Waiting to her Majesty.

### THE QUEEN'S GIFTS.

The distribution of her Majesty's Royal Bounty—minor alms and gate alms—took place, as usual, at the Almonry Office, Scotland-yard, on Christmas Eve and on the previous day, and was continued on Monday and Tuesday, to aged, disabled, and meritorious poor who had been recommended by clergymen and others of the various parishes in and round London to the Queen's High Almoner and to the Sub-Almoner. There were over 1000 recipients.

The Queen commanded twenty pheasants to be sent to the Windsor Infirmary, and twenty brace of pheasants to University College Hospital, for the patients during Christmas.

Her Majesty's New-Year's gifts to the poor of the parishes of St. John's, New Windsor, Holy Trinity, and Clewer will, for the first time since the death of the Prince Consort, be publicly distributed in the riding-school of the Royal mews at Windsor Castle to-day (New-Year's Eve). Prince and Princess Christian will be present. The gifts consist of meat and coals. The joints of beef varying from 3 lb. to 7 lb. in weight, and the coal, in quantities of from 1 cwt. to 3 cwt., is conveyed to the homes of the recipients. The joint value of the gifts is nearly £200, in addition to which the Queen contributes annually £100 to the Windsor Clothing Club.

### THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by various guests who had passed the week at Sandringham House, drove to the Wolferton station in a sledge on Christmas Eve, the snow in many places being a great depth. Subsequently the Prince distributed his usual annual gifts to the dependants upon the Royal estate. The distribution took place in the large room in the Royal mews. Each family received three pounds of beef for the man and his wife and one pound for each child. The recipients numbered several hundreds, belonging to the parishes of Sandringham, West Newton, Wolferton, Appleton, and Dersingham.

The Mayor of King's Lynn, with the Rev. T. White, M.A., Head Master of Lynn Grammar School, and Mr. R. R. Harper, a pupil of the school, had an interview with his Royal Highness. Mr. Harper was the successful competitor for the gold medal given annually by the Prince to the school, and he had the honour of receiving the prize from his Royal Highness.

On Christmas Day the Prince and Princess attended Divine service at Sandringham church, which was tastefully decorated with flowers and evergreens. The Rev. W. Lake Onslow, M.A., officiated.

On Monday the Prince left Sandringham for Gunton Hall, the seat of Lord Suffield, for a few days' shooting, the Princess with her family remaining at Sandringham House.

The Prince sent at Christmas a large hamper of hares and pheasants for the patients of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, of which institution his Royal Highness is President. The Prince also sent valuable presents of game to the Charing-cross and Westminster Hospitals.

Prince and Princess Teck arrived at Frogmore House on Tuesday on a visit to Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein.

The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough have returned to Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxon, from visiting the Marquis and Marchioness Camden at Bayham Abbey, Sussex.

The Duke of Norfolk and the Duchess of Norfolk left Norfolk House, St. James's-square, on Saturday last, for

Arundel Castle. The remains of Lady Victoria Hope-Scott have been interred in the family vault of the new chapel at Arundel, built by the late Duke of Norfolk.

The Duke of Devonshire, accompanied by Captain the Hon. Francis and Lady Louisa Egerton, have left Chatsworth for Holker Hall, Westmorland.

### THE CHURCH.

A painted window (by Mr. T. W. Camm, of Smethwick) has been placed in St. Andrew's Church, Sharrow, to the memory of Mr. W. Whitehead.

The Church of St. Mark, Lye, was consecrated, on the 6th inst., by the Bishop of Worcester. The memorial-stone was laid by Lady Lyttelton about twelve months ago.

A handsome memorial lectern has been placed in the church of Swanmore, near Bishops Waltham, by the friends and neighbours of the late Mrs. Shearer, of Swanmore House.

The New Testament Company of Revisers concluded their present session last week. The revision of nearly one half of the authorised version of the Gospel of St. Matthew has been concluded.

The following churches have been reopened after restoration:—St. Mary's, Chadlington, Oxfordshire—towards which Earl Ducie gave £1450; the parish church of Chudleigh, Devon; and the church of Little Dewchurch, Herefordshire.

At the meeting of the Finance Committee of the National Society, on Monday, grants to the amount of £3990 were voted towards the building and enlargement of schools at eighty-one places. These grants will assist in providing additional accommodation for 14,391 children.

In New Zealand, Archdeacon Hadfield was consecrated Bishop of Wellington on Oct. 9. All the Bishops in the colony were present. It was the first consecration performed without the Queen's mandate, and a protest against it on that account was made by Mr. Kempthorne, of Auckland.

Nearly 500 grants for providing additional curates, to labour chiefly in missionary work among the masses of our large towns during the ensuing year, were made at a meeting of the committee of the Society for Promoting the Employment of Additional Curates, held on Wednesday, leaving further applications still to be dealt with.

Mr. T. Shepherd, of Beverley, has filled a window in the south aisle of St. Mary's Church, Beverley, with stained glass, in memory of his parents; and a stained glass memorial window has been placed in Beverley Minster. In a previous notice York was substituted for Beverley, and a correspondent courteously set us right.

The foundation-stone of a new church, to be dedicated to St. Frideswide, was laid in the district of New Osney, Oxford, on the 13th, by J. G. Talbot, Esq., M.P. for West Kent, brother of the Warden of Keble College. The Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, in whose hands the patronage of the living will be vested, have contributed a small endowment, the site, and the sum of £1000 to the building fund.

The parishioners of the Rev. J. D. Claxton, St. Philip's, Earls-court, Kensington, have presented him with a silver salver and a purse of 250 sovereigns, as a mark of their esteem.—A complete suit of clerical robes has been presented to the Rev. H. Victor Macdonald, M.A., of St. Paul's, Kilburn, by the ladies of his congregation, as a testimonial of their esteem for his faithful ministry.

The governors of the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy have at their last two monthly meetings made grants of £1204 to ninety recipients. At the same time the governors gave away from other funds at their disposal about £850 amongst a large number of clergymen's widows and children, the grant to the children being made in aid of their education at schools and colleges and placing them out in life.

At the last monthly meeting of the Incorporated Church Building Society grants of money were made in aid of the following objects:—Building a church at Chalk, in the parish of Dalston, near Carlisle; rebuilding (on a new site) the church at Bexley Heath, Christ Church, Kent; enlarging or otherwise increasing the accommodation in the churches at Cokerley, near Cheltenham; Old Radford, near Nottingham; and Spennymoor, in the parish of Whitworth, Durham.

The Bishop of London consecrated, yesterday week, the new Church of St. Jude, South Kensington, built by Messrs. Godwin, architects. It will seat, with galleries, about 1600 people; and the whole cost, including adjacent rooms, which will hold between 300 and 400 people, is about £11,000. The Rev. R. W. Forrest, late Chaplain to the Lock Hospital, Paddington, has been appointed Vicar.—Christ Church, Blackfriars-road, which has had an apsidal chancel added to it, has been reconsecrated by the Bishop of Winchester; and the newly-erected chancel of Christ Church, Watney-street, St. George's-in-the-East, by the Bishop of London.

Viscount Enfield, the member for Middlesex, will succeed Mr. Otway as Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Colonel J. S. Wood, C.B., Inspector-General of the Royal Irish Constabulary, is gazetted a K.C.B.

The Earl of Zetland, late G.M., following the liberal example of the Grand Masonic Lodge of England, has contributed £100 to the Refugees' Benevolent Fund.

A number of gentlemen met, on Thursday week, at the residence of Mr. E. Hudson, whose services in connection with the Dublin Exhibition Palace are well known, to present him with a piece of plate. The Duke of Leinster presented it.

The insertion of an article on the Exhibition of the Institute of painters in Water Colours, as well as of articles on Science, Archaeology, and other matters, is unavoidably deferred until next week.

Mr. George Wilson, chairman of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, died suddenly on Thursday morning, while travelling on the railway from Manchester to Liverpool. The deceased gentleman was best known as chairman of the Anti-Corn Law League.

The Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer at Dromore was reopened on Sunday, the 11th inst., after considerable enlargement and improvement. The chief feature in the alteration consists of a memorial chancel and choir to Bishop Jeremy Taylor, who is buried in a vault beneath it.

The Gazette announces that the Queen has been pleased to confer the following honours in the most distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George:—Knights Commanders—Lieutenant-General James Lindsay and Colonel Walseley; Companions—Colonel Feilden, Lieutenant-Colonel McNeill, Lieutenant-Colonel Bolton, Matthew Bell Irvine; and Lieutenant-Colonel Jarvis, Lieutenant-Colonel Cassault, and Major McLeod, in the service of the Dominion of Canada.

### "NOTHING IN THE PAPERS."

In spite of the laudable efforts made by a great number of admirable writers to persuade us that this Christmas should be a cheerful one, it is clearly nothing of the kind. And it is to the credit of our insular nature that this is not a cheerful Christmas. It does not appear that its duties have been omitted, or that the generosity habitually extended at the season has been much checked by the enormous drain made upon charity by the claims of the sufferers by the war. The ordinary Christmas gifts have been distributed, and the various agencies that collect for the poor have acknowledged large sums. But the very papers in which such acknowledgments have been made contain recitals which must go to the hearts of the most callous. The fierce excitement of the war-story is over, and, while we read with no great interest of a victory or a sortie, we peruse with deepened loathing the details of the scenes after the fight, and of the harrowing narratives of the condition of the wounded. We are reminded by the ablest of the veteran correspondents that we must not be impatient, must not "be sick of the war." But we are, and we have a right to be. In no previous campaign was the hideous truth so closely and so constantly brought home to us as it has been in this struggle; and it is not in human nature to listen, month after month, to revelations so revolting, and to feel anything but wearisome disgust. The dreadful business has been brought too close to us for our eyes to follow the smoke-clouds, and our ears to listen to trumpet-clang. We see our brethren writhing in agony, and our very soul revolts at the still more loathsome pictures that are thrust before us. The war is upon us like a nightmare, or like "the dream that hath power to poison sleep." In vain, therefore, are we called upon to keep the feast as in other seasons. It will not be. As was written in this Journal in the bad days of the Crimean War,

Nay, we hail no roysterer's Christmas, such as in the olden times  
Bade us shout a jovial chorus to the music of his chimes.

Events have been too strong for the British traditions of the season; and, however Continentals may affect to accuse us of apathy—they continue to do so, in spite of the mighty effort we made for the war-victims—it is true that, instead of giving up ourselves to a selfish exultation and to rejoicing that we are out of the fray, England will have passed the saddest Christmas that she has known since she was herself in war.

The frightful frequency of railway accidents makes reference to them monotonous; but noted they must be. It is impossible that Parliament should not be asked to take the subject into consideration; and though the power of the railway interest in the House is so great that at ordinary times there is little chance of getting remedial measures carried, the slaughter which has been perpetrated during the last two months is so exceptional that even a railway Parliament must, in decency, accord something like attention to the matter. The Christmas week has been marked by a new catastrophe, which, if not so extensive as some that have lately occurred, presents incidents of greater horror. I do not wish to dwell upon details here, but it may be worth while to hint that any temperate but resolute member of the House, who will state nothing but what can be proved, and who has oratory enough to tear to pieces the conventional defences made by "the interest," will, if he takes up the topic of railway slaughter, and sticks to it, earn himself a more honourable popularity than that of many a professed agitator.

The Education Board certainly made a mistake in limiting the salary of its secretary in the way it has done. £1000 a year was by no means an excessive amount when it is considered that what the Board wants is a gentleman of tact and experience, and one who will devote his whole time to the work. A man good enough for that place can earn £1000 a year elsewhere. It would seem as if the Board had been swayed by the bugbear notion that if it selected too able a man he would become its master; but such a notion could hardly have been seriously entertained where Lord Lawrence was chief. The better the official the less likely he is to encroach. I was sorry to see that Mr. Lucraft, on the part of the working class, was for getting service even cheaper than his colleagues. It is clear that many highly respectable and intelligent persons have yet to learn the real value of a practical intellect. The mistake may be rectified by raising the salary of the secretary, should he turn out to be an excellent one, but the parsimony which diminished the pay diminished the chance of obtaining excellence.

While a good many people are thinking about pantomimes, I should like to inscribe a word of satisfaction with an announcement I observed regarding Mr. E. L. Blanchard's apparently very graceful production at Drury Lane. It has been for years the custom of managers to have "advertisement scenes"—that is, scenes in which the shops or wares of puffing tradesmen are forced on the public eye. Of course, the tradesmen paid for this, and thought they found their reward. It was not respectful to the spectators that into their fun should be thrust a "touting" picture; but British spectators do not mind being insulted. However, to its credit, the management of Drury Lane this year announced that it would have nothing of the kind. Of course, there are managers who see no objection to the practice, and would have stuck a puffing placard on the tail of the dear old Dragon of Wantley himself, if a few pounds could be gained by the exhibition. By-the-way, Mr. Blanchard writes the best pantomimes possible. I congratulate him on having taken the Dragon, who, I think, made the glory of Covent Garden in 1834, and whose famous ballad was then reprinted by everybody's friend, the editor of the *Mirror*.

I heard of a Scotchman who wrote a very valuable book on the cleansing of the Clyde, or the cultivation of the Scotch fir, or the comparative strength of timber and iron in building, or some such instructive matter. But in the middle of it, "without rhyme or reason," it pleased him to insert a note containing a long story, at least as broad as it was long, and having no sort of bearing on the subject in hand. His astonished friends asked him what made him throw in this exceedingly irrelevant bit, and he replied that he had been told that his book looked rather heavy, and he thought it would be better to lighten it. The story is not found in subsequent editions. In imitation of the Scot, and at a dull date, I incline to insert an extract that has been sent me from a country paper. It gives a list of the prizes at a recent cattle show in the south, and says—"The cup was unanimously awarded to Mr. A. B. C., as the best beast in the show."

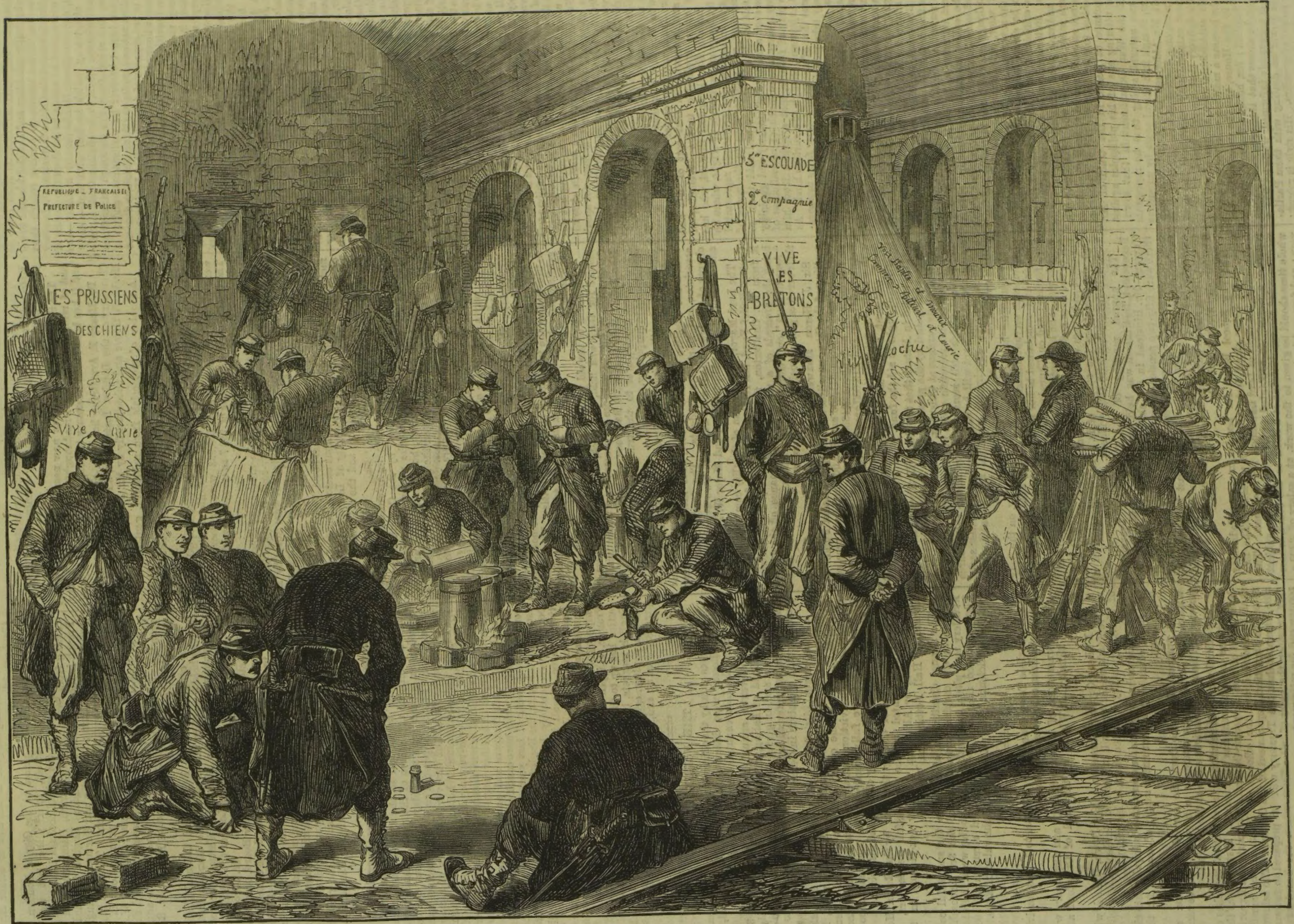
The *Standard* newspaper, some time ago, inserted, deservedly, severe strictures upon the way in which the Chantry monument to Henry Kirke White had been treated. As matters are now rectified, one would pass over disagreeables, and merely record with satisfaction that the American gift has been placed in the chapel of St. John's, Cambridge (White's college), and due honour has been paid to one whom even Byron ranked as a poet to be held in memory.





DEPARTURE OF A BALLOON FROM PARIS AT NIGHT (SKETCH BY BALLOON POST).





GARDES MOBILES AT PARIS CAMPED UNDER RAILWAY ARCHES. (SKETCH BY BALLOON POST).



## MEMBERS OUT OF PARLIAMENT.

Time was, and not so long ago, when any allusion to a metropolitan member was sure to raise a laugh; just as, according to Mr. Charles Villiers, whenever the wisdom of the House of Commons was mentioned everybody laughed. At the election of 1865 the return of certain notabilities began to rescue the class from the ironical consideration which it always received; and at that of 1868 things took such a turn that now really the metropolitan members may be almost called distinguished. Notable amongst them are certainly the members for the new borough of Hackney, which, it is said, Mr. Disraeli created under his Reform Act because he had been to school in that district. Very soon Mr. Charles Reed came to the front, metaphorically speaking, and entitled himself to sit, in his second Session, if not before, no further remote than the bench immediately behind that of the Government. In every movement, and every word he utters, he develops the quality of energy. Indeed, one sometimes thinks that his mobility—the sort of rushing about way which he has with him—nearly degenerates into fussiness. Still, it is obvious that is only a fault of degree, and arises from the thorough earnestness with which he goes into whatever he undertakes; and it is notable that he does not undertake anything which he does not understand and is not capable of dealing with. He is not one of those semi-bores who speak *ex cathedra* on every question, and are therefore inevitably everlastingly platitudinous; but, though his fluency and fulness of speech almost touch on the pleonastic, there is always matter in what he says. He speaks well, very well—better on the platform, perhaps, than in the House, probably because his good sense leads him to endeavour to adapt himself to the peculiar manner of the House; and he seems the very incarnation of good humour; while about his kindness and philanthropy, in the best sense of that word, there is no doubt. As to Mr. John Holmes, his colleague, he is the sort of man that a few minutes' observation would lead you to believe that, if you had something which you wished to be done with a mixture of shrewdness, calmness, honesty, and good faith, he is the man of all others to whom you would intrust it. He overflows with sound common-sense; and, though a little dry or hard in manner, he is in converse and intercommunication agreeable and genial. It is most likely that, looking to the mode in which they have demeaned themselves as members and public men, the constituents of Hackney, if they had been directly asked the question at a recent meeting which Mr. Reed and Mr. Holmes attended, whether they would choose them as their representatives in Parliamentary perpetuity, would have unanimously replied in the affirmative.

There is one of the fables of Æsop, which it is not necessary too particularly to designate, which often occurs to some people who witness the Parliamentary gambols of Mr. Corrance, one of the comparatively recent members for East Suffolk. It is obvious that he believes himself to be developing the latent qualities of a wit and a man of literary acquirements; while as to oratory, in all its phases, moods, and tenses—from grave to gay, from lively to severe—he palpably supposes that he plays up and down the whole gamut. The effect is that one inevitably thinks of the short distance between the sublime and its antithesis; and the only comfort which his hearers have is a conviction of his utter unconsciousness of anything but unalloyed success. Not that he is deficient in a certain shrewdness and readiness of perception, or that he does not speak with some knowledge of his subject; so that were he to aspire less he would really perform more, and with a little time and judicious toning down become a not invaluable skirmisher on the Conservative side.

There is about to re-enter the House a gentleman who on the few, and they were very few, occasions on which he spoke during his former Parliamentary career exhibited rare properties of wit and humour, and that sort of wit and humour which is made applicable to the developing of serious argument. Indeed, Mr. Cavendish Cliford, who has just been returned for Newport, in the Isle of Wight, where he did not seek re-election in 1868, having previously represented the borough for some time, was peculiar even to the verge of eccentricity. He said such odd things, and said them so quaintly; there was such a mixture of mockery and geniality in his gibes and irony; there was so much of appositeness of language, and such play of feature, that a speech from him was an intellectual enjoyment, though of a curious kind. As a rule, his manner was that of a man of *laissez faire* temperament, who would only take part in dissertation from a half-caustic point of view, his causticism being, however, evidently only the upper crust of a really kindly nature. It is to be hoped that he will move himself during his renewed membership to more frequent utterances than hitherto, being assured that they will find a ready hearing.

Most people, judging from his ways and developments in the House since his return for Wakefield in 1868, would imagine Mr. Somerset Beaumont to be a very young member indeed; whereas the fact is that he was in the House from 1860 to 1865, and so served a tolerable apprenticeship. Not to speak in the least offensively, he seems resolved to go in for what may be called fantastic membership. He at least gives notice, and sometimes works out propositions which are intended to be striking, but which are, in reality and from a practical point of view, only *bizarre*; and he seems to mould his speech in the severest models of austere statesmanship. He means to be sharp, bitter, uncompromising, and even original in his criticisms; and he can emit tolerably decisive personalities. But, somehow, he does not take with the generality of his audience; and certainly it can be safely asserted that there are some of those who often hear him whose indignation is not so much roused as their sublimity is appealed to. He is called to mind from the fact of his having made a recent appearance at Leeds, in the train of Mr. Trevelyan, who was uttering one of his philippics against the administration of the War Department in that town. There, too, was—as was natural, seeing that he represents the place—another new, though in a literal sense by no means young member—to wit, Mr. Alderman Carter. Of him, as a recent Parliamentary man, one has but this recollection, that he has one of the most extraordinary voices and the most singular cadences in his delivery that one ever heard.

Those who know his antecedents were always of opinion that Mr. Melly, when he became a member, would make a certain place for himself in the House, and the vaticination has been to a great extent fulfilled; for, being a frequent, though not too frequent speaker, he shows that there are some public questions on which he is adequately informed, while he has a nearly equally adequate power of dealing with them Parliamentarily—that is, by means of speeches. His style is robust; he affects nothing superfine in his utterances; and he can be very earnest when he warms up with his subject. Being essentially a man of business, no doubt his qualifications in that direction are available in the less public affairs of the House; and, on the whole, he has achieved a right to ask, directly or indirectly, as he probably did a short time ago, the electors of Stoke-on-Trent for a continuance of the confidence which they gave him at his election in 1868.

## METROPOLITAN NEWS.

New Broad-street and George-yard, Lombard-street, are to be paved with asphalt, at the expense of the inhabitants.

The Worshipful Company of Fishmongers has subscribed 100 guineas to the Refugees' Benevolent Fund.

The scheme for amalgamating the three principal yacht clubs of the metropolis—the Royal Thames, Royal London, and New Thames—has fallen through.

Lord Cairns has consented to take the chair at the sixteenth annual dinner of the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools, to be held on Thursday, Jan. 19, 1871.

There was a collision at the King's-cross station of the Metropolitan Railway, last Saturday evening, in which ten persons were injured.

The Seamen's Hospital has now nearly 200 inmates. The cost of removal from the Dreadnought has been very heavy, and it has been found necessary to increase the working staff.

Dr. Henry E. Armstrong has been appointed Professor of Chemistry at the London Institution, an office once held by Mr. W. R. Grove and subsequently by Mr. J. A. Wanklyn.

A number of memorials from noblemen, gentlemen, and other inhabitants of the West-End was presented to the Board of Works, yesterday week, against the adoption of street tramways in that part of the metropolis.

In the third week of December there were 145,000 persons in receipt of parochial relief in the metropolis, of whom 36,002 were in the workhouses and 108,998 were outdoor paupers. The total showed a decrease of 7537 as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

A white marble monument to the mother of John Wesley was uncovered, last week, at the City-road Wesleyan Chapel, by Mr. M'Arthur, M.P. Suitable addresses were made by Mr. M'Arthur and Mr. Charles Reed, M.P., the Vice-Chairman of the Education Board.

Wednesday week being the Feast of St. Thomas, the ward-motes were held, according to ancient custom, for the election of common councilmen for the city of London. Except in two wards there was no opposition, and the old members were for the most part re-elected.

The draught bill and plans for the extension of Billingsgate Market have been received by the Commissioners of Customs. The bill proposes to take power to purchase the Custom House and adjoining quay, but it is thought probable that the extension will be made on the London Bridge side.

The City Commissioners of Sewers have resolved to spend £20,000 in opening for carriage traffic the roadway on the northern side of St. Paul's Cathedral, and in throwing into the public way a large space of ground at the western end of the building, now the property of the Dean and Chapter.

Speaking at the annual distribution of prizes at the St. Clement Danes Grammar School, last week, Sir Roundell Palmer brought the testimony of a personal experience to bear in illustrating the importance of a good education. The learned gentleman dwelt especially upon the value of a sound elementary instruction.

A meeting of the old pupils of the North London Collegiate School for Girls was held, last week, at the school-house in Camden-street, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Miss Buss. More than £200 had been collected, which, at her request, was handed over to the trustees towards founding a scholarship in perpetuity.

At the council meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers, last week, it was said that during the past session there had been a net effective increase of forty-four members, seventy associates, and thirty-five students. The funds under the charge of the institution were £23,145. Two associates were added—namely, J. J. Allport, Esq., and Major W. Palliser, C.B.

The Lord Mayor, as chairman of the City committee of the Captain Relief Fund, has received a cheque for £100 in aid of it from Mr. Chatterton, the lessee of Drury Lane Theatre, being the proceeds of a morning performance of the drama "Amy Robsart" on Wednesday week. All the performers gave their services gratuitously on the occasion.

Sir J. Heron Maxwell presided, on Wednesday, over a meeting of the City committee of the Captain Relief Fund. It was stated that between £41,000 and £42,000 had been received at Portsmouth, and about £1300 at the Mansion House. Between £17,000 and £18,000 are still required. The tardiness with which the subscriptions had come in was the theme of much comment, and a strong opinion was expressed that Government ought to aid the fund.

It is stated in *Nature* that the Royal Horticultural Society has been compelled by the pressure on its funds to dispose of a portion of its gardens at Chiswick, the most valuable portion of its property, in a scientific point of view. The portion of the gardens which still remains covers about thirty-three acres; and the orchard will be reorganised on a smaller scale, and the trials and experiments, practical and scientific, will still be carried on.

Dr. Lankester held an inquest, last Saturday, on the body of a domestic servant named Jemima Hall, aged twenty-two. The girl had complained to her mother that her work was too hard for her; and on Thursday last she left her situation and went home. She had not been home long before she suddenly fell to the floor and died. The medical evidence showed that her chest and lungs were quite deformed by tight-lacing, and that she died from the effects of it. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with this evidence.

The annual meeting of the Commercial Travellers' Benevolent Institution was held, on Tuesday, at the London Tavern—Mr. Binstead in the chair. The report stated that there were fifty-two pensioners now on the funds, at an annual cost of £1900, and four more were to be elected from a list of twelve candidates. The income for the past half year had amounted to £2067; and the expenditure, including £890 paid to annuitants and to purchase of £500 stock, had been £1618. The invested stock is £13,000.

The new School Board for London met on Wednesday week, there being about forty members present. The two ladies sat on the right of Lord Lawrence, the chairman. The report of a committee appointed to inquire into the subject recommended the appointment of a clerk to the board, whose whole time should be given to the work, at a salary of £800 a year; and four assistants—one for the statistics, at £350; an accountant, at £250; a minute and shorthand clerk, at £200; and a junior clerk, at £100. The committee also recommended that a messenger be appointed, at 25s. per week. After several amendments as to the salary of the chief clerk had been rejected, the report was adopted. The board then adjourned until Jan. 5, when a committee will be appointed to consider the scheme of education to be adopted in public elementary schools, and to report thereon.

The charitable donations of the past week included three sums of £1000 each—to the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum for Destitute Children, Bagshot, from "M. D. W.;" to the Refugees for Homeless and Destitute Children and Chichester Training Ship, from "P. N. D.;" and to the Homes of Hope, 6, Regent-square, Gray's-inn-road, from "E. D. W."

The extension of the Brixton and Clapham Tramway from its late terminus at Hercules-buildings, Kennington-road, to the foot of Westminster Bridge (Surrey side), was completed on Thursday week, and the carriages commenced running the whole distance yesterday week. The fare from Westminster Bridge to Kennington-gate is 2d., and to either Brixton or Clapham, 3d.

The distribution of prizes at the City of London Middle-Class School, Cowper-street, took place last week. The number of boys now on the school books is 1050, some of them coming from Sydenham, Greenwich, Hampstead, and Barnet. French is the only language besides English included in the ordinary curriculum; but Latin and German are taught after school hours for a small extra payment. The head boy of the present year, as the result of the examinations, is Charles Stevens, of Hythe. The head master, the Rev. W. Jowitt, stated that, of 400 boys who had entered the school this year, 200 were the brothers of previous pupils. He also announced promises of scholarships for the ensuing year by Mr. Roundell and Mr. George Moore.

The committee of the British and Colonial Emigration Society held a meeting last week at the Mansion House. It was announced that the Marquis of Westminster had contributed £100, and that the First Lord of the Admiralty had, out of a private fund, subscribed £200. Mr. Corbett, one of the inspectors attached to the Poor-Law Board, bore testimony to the good effect which the operations of the society had produced, to the manifest decrease of pauperism in districts where emigration had been carried on, and to the urgent necessity of establishing local clubs and societies for the promotion of emigration in the coming spring, especially in the northern district of London. The reports received respecting the emigrants, and their own letters, showed the great benefit which the people themselves had derived. The funds of the committee are exhausted.

Christmas Day in the workhouses was observed in the usual manner, and the inmates were supplied with many of those creature comforts which fall to the share of most classes of the community at this season of the year. Monday was observed as an almost general holiday throughout the metropolis. A vast number of persons enjoyed themselves upon the ice in the parks; whilst of the various places of amusement the Crystal Palace continued to hold its own in the estimation of the public. The ever-varying incidents of Boxing Night, as presented at the different theatres in the evening, are described at length on another page. The *Railway News* says that the Christmas hampers and parcels carried last week by the railway companies were much more numerous than in the corresponding week of last year. Turkeys are greatly in the ascendant this year, the English production of that bird having been unprecedentedly large of late. Geese are comparatively scarce. Small importations of geese and turkeys have been received from Honfleur, Havre, and St. Malo, the ordinance against the exportation of food having been evaded by shipping them alive; a few eggs have also been received from France, shipped as fruit; and the supply of French fresh butter has up to this time been equal to the demands of the English markets, but the trade as between France and England in poultry, eggs, and Normandy butter may be said to be practically at an end, at least for the present.

## THE VOLUNTEERS.

The prizes won by the officers and men of the West London (4th Middlesex) were distributed, in Westminster Hall, by Lord Truro, the Lieutenant-Colonel commanding.

At the eleventh annual regimental dinner of the 30th Middlesex, held at Ealing, on Thursday week, Mr. Walpole took the chair, and, in giving the toast "Success to the Volunteer Movement," referred to its present organisation and to the system now in operation in Germany.

At the annual distribution of prizes to the successful volunteers in the 1st Warwickshire, on Thursday week, Mr. Muntz, M.P., spoke on the question of our national defence. He expressed his conviction that the volunteer force, in case of invasion, would prove fully worthy of the confidence reposed in them, and urged the necessity of drill and discipline.

The prizes shot for during the year by the Robin Hood Rifles were presented to the successful competitors, on Thursday week, by Alderman Oldknow (ex-Mayor), in the Mechanics' Hall, Nottingham.

The annual distribution of prizes to the successful competitors in the carbine competitions of the 3rd Lancashire Artillery took place, at Blackburn, on Tuesday week. Adjutant Flynn reported that out of an enrolled strength of 1080, 1058 were efficient. The prizes were of the value of £290.

The Carlisle Town Council, by 23 votes to 7, has resolved on the establishment of a school board.

The corner-stone of a new infirmary and dispensary was laid, on Monday, at Wigan, by the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres.

Mr. Müller's Orphan Houses, on Ashley Down, Bristol, will receive £8000 under the will of the late Mr. George Reynolds, of Westbury-on-Trym, on the death of his widow.

Mr. Childers has appointed a committee to inquire into the best mode of raising a continuous supply of seamen for the Royal Navy.

The number of deaths from the terrible explosion at Witton, near Birmingham, amounts to fifty-one, and several persons still lie in a precarious state at the hospital.

The official minute in relation to the statistical branches of the Customs establishment has been issued. It states that the department of the Inspector-General of Imports and Exports shall be abolished, and the office of the Examiner be constituted the Statistical Department of the Customs. The minute also intimates that the Treasury will be prepared to favourably consider the cases of all officers whom the board may recommend for retirement.

From April 1 to Dec. 17 the national revenue amounted to £44,181,053, as compared with £48,841,038 in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure has amounted to £46,445,455. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday week was £3,562,203.—From April 1 to Dec. 24 the national revenue amounted to £45,365,437, as against £49,709,038 in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure has been £47,164,229. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last exceeded £4,000,000.



## THE ECLIPSE.

The eclipse of the sun, on Thursday week, was very well seen in London generally. After a heavy snowstorm the clouds cleared away, and for three hours all the phenomena attending this great solar event were observable. The sun presented the appearance of a brilliant crescent; and although at the greatest obscuration a large portion of its surface was covered, there was no material diminution of the ordinary light of day. In all the open spaces there were knots of persons witnessing the eclipse, and exchanging remarks, more or less accurate, on the cause. Our Artist has faithfully and vividly depicted, on page 680, one of these groups. The old-clothesman and the young swell, as well as the newsboy and the crossing-sweeper, stop to have a look; and even omnibus and cab drivers snatch furtive glances at the darkened sun, while rattling through the crowded streets. One spectacled gentleman peers through a piece of coloured glass. The policeman is evidently mixing a little sentiment with his philosophising to the neat-handed Phillis—no doubt expounding the mystery after this fashion:—"You see, my dear, 'tis just the same as if some unmannerly dorkie put himself between you and me, and so shut me out from the light of your sweet face." Of this we may be sure, that the most haphazard guess at the cause by the most unlettered, nowadays, will be nearer the mark—thanks to the diffusion of knowledge—than were the speculations of the learned, ages ago, when the disastrous twilight perplexed monarchs with fear of change.

The clouds and falling snow interfered with the observation of the eclipse in many parts of the kingdom.

A telegram was dispatched by Lord Lindsay immediately after the eclipse. Lord Lindsay's place of observation was La Maria Louisa, near Puerto, the mainland station opposite Cadiz:—"Photographs successful. Two good pictures of corona. Polariscopes doubtful. Sketching good. Corona gives continuous spectrum, no lines. Broken sky."

Mr. W. Crooke, a member of the North African eclipse observation party, telegraphs from Oran:—"A little before totality a cloud obscured the sun, and therefore a partial eclipse only was observed."

## LAW AND POLICE.

Only two election petitions are pending for trial—Norwich and Brecon. Mr. Justice Keating will take the former petition on Jan. 4, and the latter has been put off by Mr. Justice Lush until after April 15 next.

Vice-Chancellor Bacon decided last week that the Albert Company was liable for the insurance debts of the companies with which it had been amalgamated.

In the Court of Exchequer, last week, Mr. Johnson, a draper, of North Walsham, brought an action against a firm of Norwich solicitors for having adjudicated him a bankrupt without reasonable ground. The defendants pleaded that they had acted upon the instructions of the late Sir Robert Harvey, a creditor of the plaintiff; that everything had been done in the ordinary course of business, and that they were actuated by no vindictive feeling. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff—damages £1560.

Lord Romilly, on Thursday week, gave judgment in a suit in which the question was raised whether, under the will of the late Lord Crewe, Lincoln College, Oxford, the University of Oxford, and the city of Durham were entitled to share in the surplus annual income of certain property in Northumberland and Durham. Counsel for the claimants contended that although they had been excluded by distinct words from participation in the surplus income, they ought to be allowed to share in, on the ground that Lord Crewe never anticipated that the surplus would become so large (£10,000 a year.) The Master of the Rolls decided against the claimants.

In the Nisi Prius Court at the Liverpool Assizes, last week, Elizabeth Ann Law, Haslingden, sued Walter Adam Slater, residing in the same neighbourhood, for breach of promise of marriage. The jury found for the plaintiff, and assessed the damages at £400.

The judgment of Lord Jerviswoode, finding that Messrs. Alexander Murray and Son, of London, had infringed the copyright of the "Border Minstrelsy" of Sir Walter Scott, was affirmed in the First Division of the Court of Session at Edinburgh yesterday week.

In the Irish Court of Queen's Bench, last week, the case of "Crook v. Lalor," which was an action for alleged false imprisonment, the plaintiff having, after an order was made for his release, been confined in a lunatic asylum, of which the defendant was superintendent, terminated in a verdict for the plaintiff—damages, £100.

The trial of the directors of the Monarch Insurance Company has resulted in a verdict of "Not guilty." The jury were of opinion that the defendants had exhibited great negligence. The Lord Chief Justice took a similar view of their conduct; and expressed a hope that this prosecution would make gentlemen more circumspect in issuing prospectuses.

George Weller, a cab-driver, has been fined 20s., at the Thames Police Court, for neglecting to disinfect his cab after conveying a smallpox patient.

Dr. Lankester, the Coroner, was engaged, on Thursday week, in an attempt to unravel a most mysterious occurrence. A well-corded box, addressed to "Mr. Thompson, Carlisle Station. To be left till called for," was received on Sept. 21. No inquiry having been made, it was forwarded to the Lost Property Office, at Euston-square, and opened on the 11th of the present month. The box was then found to contain the bodies of two infants, apparently about nine months old, whose deaths, according to the medical evidence, were caused by violence. No clue has been obtained to the perpetrators of these murders.

A pigdealer of Berwick-on-Tweed was, on Thursday week, charged at Guildhall with having sent four quarters of beef to the London market unfit for human consumption. For a sum of 10s. the defendant had purchased a diseased steer with the object of boiling it down and feeding his pigs. He subsequently altered his intention, and sent it to London for sale. Sir Sydney Waterlow sentenced him to two months' imprisonment.

Sarah Durant, a coffee-house keeper in the London-road, was charged, last week, at the Southwark Police Court, with having received two £1000 Bank of England notes, knowing them to have been stolen. The notes were part of a parcel of notes which were stolen last February at the Birkbeck Bank from a clerk in the employment of Messrs. Barnett, Hoare, and Co. The prisoner, who states that she found the notes while clearing out her coffee-room, has been committed for trial.

Sir James Watts, Knight, of Abney Hall, Cheadle, will be the High Sheriff of Lancashire for the ensuing year.

## NATIONAL SPORTS.

The "mixed" meeting at Bromley was very successful, and though nothing of much pretension to excellence ran, the fields were very large, and some capital racing took place. Young Fenton, who had always performed like a very bad horse, did wonders for his new owner, as he first beat the Duke of Hamilton's Czar and nine others "over six hurdles" and then carried off the Bromley Winter Handicap, in which race Painkiller, who had been sent all the way from Middleham, did not show to advantage. The Kingsbury meeting, which had been postponed from the previous week on account of the frost, was brought to a satisfactory conclusion on the two days succeeding the Bromley fixture. Old Cranbury, who three or four seasons ago was about the fastest horse over five furlongs in training, has gone down hill very rapidly and figured ignominiously in a small steeplechase, "to be sold for £100." Mr. Brayley was in capital form, winning three good races; but he has evidently abandoned all idea of carrying off a great event with Fortunatus, as the horse was thoroughly exposed, and, though he performed well, he had not much to beat in either of his races, and he has evidently been overrated. Casse Tête, who Mr. Brayley bought chiefly because she is half sister to Moose, proved a fortunate purchase, as she won the great Metropolitan Steeplechase very cleverly. Fan, as usual, refused, and Souvenance found 12 st. 8 lb. quite too much for her; but Harvester, who it will be remembered was heavily backed for the Derby in '68, performed very well for a novice, and the roguish King Cophetua jumped in good style under the name of The Pedlar.

The last sale of the year has taken place at Tattersalls'. Fifteen animals from M. Lupin's stable changed hands at very low prices—Azema, a four-year-old filly by The Flying Dutchman, being the only one which reached three figures. Several horses from other stables were afterwards disposed of. Moncrieff, by Blair Athol—Lady Louisa, who cost 180 gs. as a yearling, was sold for 16 gs.; but he has turned out very badly. The Prophet, another Blair Athol, who has recently been amiss, went for 135 gs., though about three months ago we saw him knocked down for 460 gs. at Doncaster. Perfume fell from £1200 to 530 gs.; there can be little doubt, however, that the former price more nearly represents her value. Cymbal was also put up; but as 1350 gs. was the highest bid, and 2000 gs. was recently refused for him, it is needless to say that he was bought in: his owner afterwards sold a half share in him for a large sum.

Coursing men had a great treat at the Brigg (open) meeting. Hares were plentiful and very good, the weather favourable, and some high-class greyhounds ran in the various stakes. The Eltham Cup was reduced from a sixty-four to a thirty-two dog stake; but, as the entrance-money was increased from £6 10s. to £10 10s., little difference was made in the value of the prize. The favourites were pretty successful in the first round, with the exception of Claude, who was fairly outstayed by Poll in a long course, and Jerry. In the first ties Pauline was led and easily beaten by Carlton. After an undecided, Cataclysm ran right away from Charming May in the second ties, and Trammie did not recover the effects of a fearfully long course with Protector in time to have any chance against Carlton. In the fourth ties the latter beat Cataclysm "the second time of asking;" but in the final course had to succumb to Letter T, by Telegram-Leaf, who had run magnificently throughout. The deciding course for the Dog Puppy Stakes was left to Countryman, by Regulus—Ristori, and Fandango, by Cheerful—Seaweed, and the latter sustained a decisive defeat. The corresponding stake for "ladies" fell to Catadupe by Cashier—Queen o' Lyne; and when the two winners were put in the slips to contest the Brigg Cup, she was a hot favourite, but, after a short undecided, had no chance with Mr. Colman's clever dog. The North of England (Hesleyside) meeting was highly successful, as hares were plentiful, and most of the trials good. The Hesleyside Cup fell to the little fancied Local Authority by King Death—Jenny's Pet, who upset two hot favourites—Sarah Ann and Blairgowrie—in the third ties and deciding course respectively. In the Puppy Stakes, Cottage Girl "went down" in the first round. She recently divided a good stake at Bothal, and was consequently in great favour for this event, and her defeat must be attributed to want of condition. Firelight by Cauld Nail beat Bessie Bell by Fusilier in the final course for the Corrie Cup at the Corrie (Lockerbie) meeting; and the Castlemilk Stakes for puppies was divided between Echo by Strange Idea—Elastic and Swipes by Speculation-Schweppe.

## MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

*The Window; or, the Songs of the Wrens.* (Strahan and Co.) This handsome volume—consisting of new poetry by the Laureate, set to music by one of our few eminent native composers—will be widely welcomed as one of the most interesting gift books of the season; its double attraction, literary and musical, appealing to the tastes of all cultivated classes. That Mr. Tennyson looks on his share in the work as of minor importance is manifest from his prefatory note, as follows:—"Four years ago Mr. Sullivan requested me to write a little song-cycle, German fashion, for him to exercise his art upon. He had been very successful in setting such old songs as 'Orpheus with his Lute,' and I dressed up for him, partly in the old style, a puppet whose only merit is, perhaps, that it can dance to Mr. Sullivan's instrument. I am sorry that my four-year-old puppet should have to dance at all in the dark shadow of these days; but the music is now completed, and I am bound by my promise."

It would be unreasonable, and unjust to a poet occupying the high literary position of the Laureate, to estimate his present production with any reference to those more serious works by which he has made his fame. He evidently considers these verses as mere bagatelles, lightly thrown off to serve as framework for the composer's purpose. It is not the deepest and most subtle poetry that is best fitted for musical setting. Indication rather than fulfilment, suggestion rather than realisation, is the office of words for music—the something superadded in this case that would be supererogatory in the other. Although many of the verses now referred to seem weak, with the inevitable recollection of their author's antecedents, there is yet much occasional grace and fancy in some of the lyrics which are grouped in this cyclus of songs, after the manner of the German "Liederkreis." The slight fancy of a lover rhapsodising on the varied aspects of nature, identifying his own passion with the loves of the birds, and passing from hopeless passion to happy acceptance, serves to give a connecting human interest to the series.

In setting these lyrics to music Mr. Arthur Sullivan has again evinced that cultivated taste and artistic skill which he has so frequently before displayed, both in miniature works like these and in the broader forms and deeper colouring of orchestral and choral effects. Some of the pianoforte accompaniments to these songs are prominent and elaborate; others of extreme simplicity—all bearing the impress of the hand of

practised skill:—No. 1, "The lights and shadows fly," has a murmuring under-current of accompaniment, sustaining the same figure at some length, and recurring, after an interruption by a simpler form. No. 2, "Vine, vine and eglantine," is somewhat less elaborate in style, the simple vocal phrases being surrounded by a delicate tracery of accompanying passages. In No. 3, "Gone, gone, till the end of the year," the clever accompaniment is the chief feature, the changing harmonies on a pedal bass being very musician-like. There is much marked character in No. 4, "The frost is here," with the syncopated chords of the accompaniment suggestive of the ruggedness of winter. In No. 5, "Birds' love and birds' song," the vocal melody, given also an octave lower by the pianoforte, is well contrasted by the fluttering effect of the intermediate accompaniment. No. 6, "Where is another," has somewhat of the quaint simplicity of the old English style, with its sustained chords of accompaniment. In No. 7, a characteristic effect is obtained by the restless accompaniment suggestive of the lover's agitated feeling when he exclaims "Is it ay or no?" No. 8, "Winds are loud," and No. 9, "Two little hands," are graceful settings of the lover's declaration. No. 10, "Sun comes," the happy contemplation of accepted love, is enhanced by a delicate arpeggio accompaniment that streams with cheerful effect throughout. No. 11, "Light so low," illustrates the marriage morning, in strains of appropriate gladness.

As already indicated, Mr. Sullivan's work has been done right well, and the result will fully sustain his high reputation as a thoughtful and graceful lyrical composer.

## PATRICK MACDOWELL, R.A.

Our mention, a fortnight back, of Mr. Macdowell's withdrawal, on account of ill-health, from active membership of the Royal Academy to the class of honorary retired Academicians must now, we regret to say, be followed by an announcement of the death of the distinguished sculptor.

Mr. Macdowell was born, at Belfast, in 1799. His father, a tradesman in that town, failing in a speculation, to embark in which he had sacrificed his business, died prematurely, leaving his wife and only child in a great measure unprotected for. When about eight years of age the boy was sent to a school in Belfast kept by a person named Gordon, who was also an engraver, and who first awakened a taste for art in the future sculptor. Four years later the mother brought her son to settle in England; and, after two more years of schooling, under a clergyman in Hampshire, she apprenticed him to a coachbuilder. In this very uncongenial position four years were spent, when his master's bankruptcy permitted him to follow his own inclinations. A room was then taken by him in the house of a French sculptor of ability, M. F. Chenu, who resided at 23, Charles-street, near Middlesex Hospital, and here the young artist's professional education was commenced in earnest. It deserves to be recorded that his first attempt at modelling the entire figure was a copy of a Venus with a mirror, cast after Donatello, which was purchased by M. Chenu at the price of eight guineas. Mr. Macdowell could hardly have been of age when he commenced practice on his own account in a small studio in Seymour-street, Euston-square. One of his first successes was in a competition for a memorial to Major Cartwright, the advocate of annual Parliaments; but this design was not carried out. Another early work of portraiture was a bust of Campbell, who was at that time editing the *New Monthly Magazine*. General Pepe also sat to the artist about the same period. As in the case of his eminent countryman Mr. Foley, he was for many years chiefly engaged on bust portraiture. His first essay of an ideal subject was an illustration of Moore's "Loves of the Angels," a group of lovers, now in Belfast. The first commission with which he was intrusted for a group in marble was from Mr. E. S. Cooper, formerly M.P. for Sligo. The subject was "Cephalus and Procris," and its conception and treatment served to found a reputation which was fully established some years later by the charming "Girl Reading," now the property of Mr. S. Beaumont, and which was repeated for the late Earl of Ellesmere. Commissions now flowed in, including copies of the "Girl Reading," and two large poetical works for Mr. William Beaumont, of Yorkshire. The very sweet figure of the "Girl Going to Bath" further enhanced the sculptor's reputation. In 1841 Mr. Macdowell spent several months in Italy; and in the same year he was elected an Associate of the Academy, his contribution to the exhibition of that year being "Prayer." His "Love Triumphant," executed for Mr. Beaumont (who had volunteered to furnish the sculptor with the necessary funds for his journey to Italy) is among his best works. To this succeeded other important statues and groups, which attracted much admiration in the International Exhibition of 1851—viz., "Cupid," "Early Sorrow," "Psyche," "The Death of Virginia," and "Eve." Among noticeable ideal works subsequently executed are "The Slumbering Student," "Love in Idleness," "The Day-Dream," for Mr. Thomas Baring, M.P.; "Psyche Abandoned by Cupid," "The First Thorn in Life," a statue for the Mansion House from Moore's "Loves of the Angels;" and the large group of "Europe," for the Prince Consort Memorial in Hyde Park, which the sculptor barely lived to complete and see placed on its site. Among his most important memorial works are Lord Exmouth (1816), one of the series of national statues of English Admirals for the decoration of Greenwich Hospital; a statue of Sir Michael O'Leighen for the Four Courts, Dublin; those of Pitt and Chatham for the Westminster Palace; Turner, the painter, for St. Paul's Cathedral; the late Earl of Belfast for Belfast; and Lord Fitzgibbon for Limerick. Mr. Macdowell was, though not markedly original, certainly one of the most poetical sculptors of our school; and his successes were more considerable in ideal works than in portraiture. Not attaining the first rank in knowledge and completeness of execution, his female figures were often extremely graceful in feeling, and he was particularly happy in expressing the soft, rounded forms of childhood. Mr. Macdowell was elected R.A. in 1846.

The Portrait is from a photograph by John Watkins, of Parliament-street.

The state apartments of Windsor Castle are open to the public, under the usual regulations.

Falmouth has again been visited by a destructive fire. The damage is estimated at £20,000.

The amount realised by collections at Manchester on Sunday week for the local medical charities was £1742 15s. 9d.

The High Sheriff has fixed Monday next for the nomination of candidates for the representation of Meath.

Her Majesty has been pleased to declare that the sisters of Lord Gwydir shall henceforth enjoy the same precedence as if their late father had survived his nephew, Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, who died Aug. 26 last.

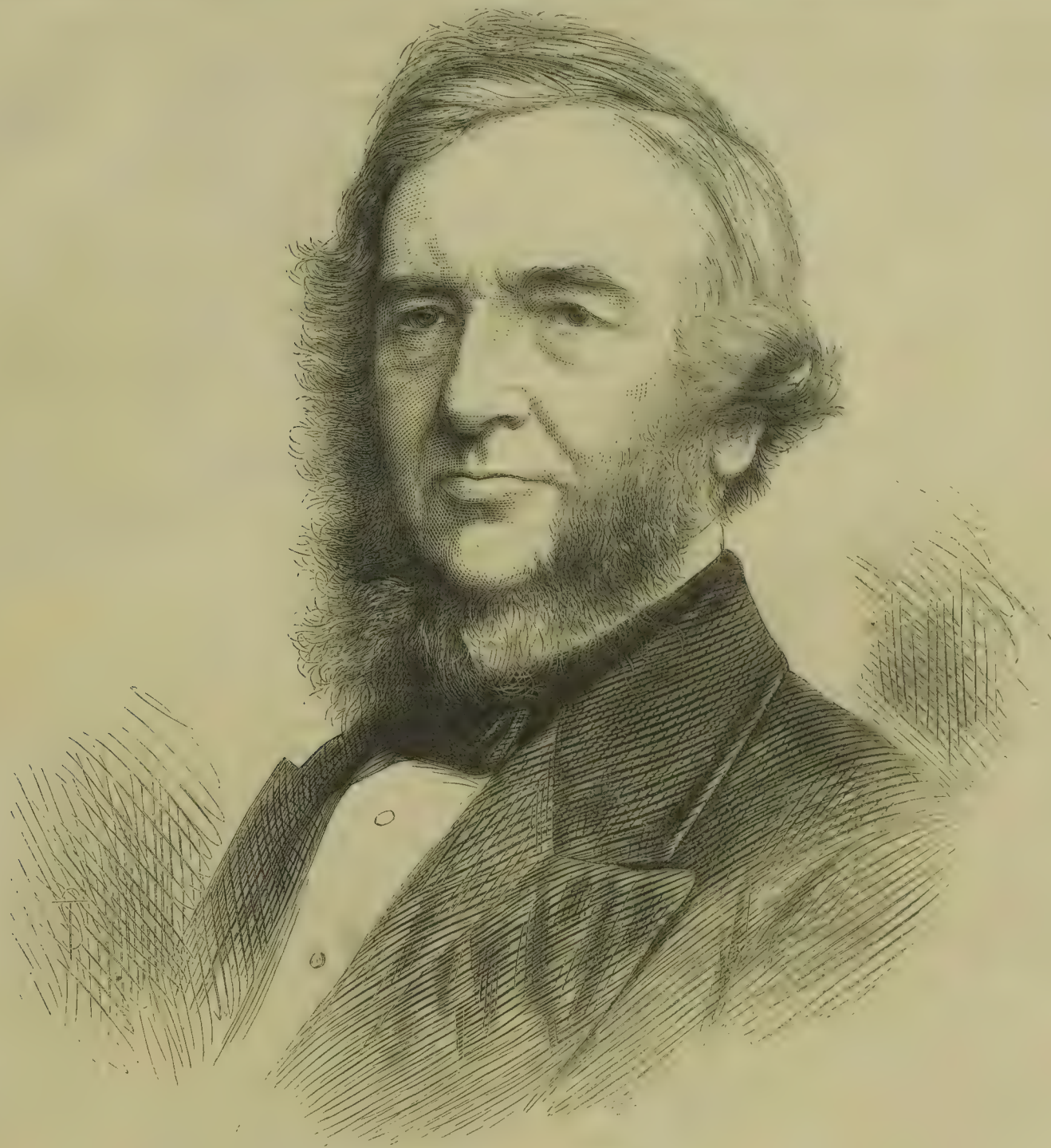
Yesterday week the Earl of Derby distributed the prizes to the pupils of the Liverpool College, of which his father was one of the founders. He delivered an address on the occasion on the advantages of educational and mental training.





THE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN. A STREET SCENE.





THE LATE PATRICK MACDOWELL. R.A.



DEMOLITION OF THE FORTIFICATIONS OF LUXEMBURG.



## NEW MUSIC.

The past year has not been a profitable one for farmers. In the spring the wheat crop suffered much from inclement weather; and although later in the season it recovered itself to a considerable extent—so much so as to give an average crop over the entire country—yet in many extensive districts the yield is unsatisfactory. Although wheat may have on the whole, been an average crop, other plants suffered severely from the long-continued drought; and the present winter finds the farmer exceedingly deficient in natural

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FUNDS much needed. Affording HOME, CLOTHING, and EDUCATION to the CHILDREN of those who have once moved in a superior station of life (clergymen, officers in the Army or Navy, members of the legal and medical professions, merchants, &c.), orphans or not, of any country.  
352 children are now under its care. Twenty will be elected in February next.  
The Institution is unendowed and dependent on voluntary subscriptions. Additional support is urgently needed.  
Forms of Nomination and Tickets to View the Schools can be obtained at the office.  
Donations and Subscriptions will be gratefully received by the Treasurer, Philip Twells, Esq.; Messrs. Barclay and Co., 54, Lombard-street, E.C.; or by R. H. EVANS, Secretary, Office, 62, King William-street, E.C.

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New and Elegant Design, £7 10s. to 35s.

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Importer of Grebe and every description of Skins. Furs taken in exchange.

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**PREMONITION.**  
**BAKER and CRISP**  
beg to notify to their extensive connection in the Metropolis and the Provinces that their Establishment will be CLOSED ON FRIDAY and SATURDAY, JAN. 5 and 6, for the purpose of unpacking and marking off an immense

**RICH, PLAIN, BROCADED, STRIPED AND CHECKED LYONS SILKS, MOIRE ANTIQUES, SATINS, SILK VELVETS, &c.,** consigned to them at less than half the cost, in consequence of the unsatisfactory state of affairs in France and Germany.  
The very best class of goods, the richest quality of Robes, as well as the most useful description of ordinary Silks, will be offered on MONDAY, JAN. 8, and Twenty-eight following Days, at such infinitely low prices as must insure a very speedy clearance of this vast consignment.  
An unusually large quantity of German Silks and Fabrics for Dresses, together with upwards of £3000 worth of Cambrie Handkerchiefs, Curtains, and other Continental Manufactures, are included in this intended distribution.  
198, Regent-street (nearly opposite Conduit-street). Catalogues and Price-Lists will be ready in a few days.

**SILKS! SILKS! SILKS!**  
BAKER and CRISP,  
198, Regent-street.  
Patterns free.

**EVENING DRESS FABRICS,**  
at BAKER and CRISP'S.  
Patterns free.  
The largest, cheapest, and prettiest assortment of Evening Chambray, Gauze, Tissues, Pol. Cheviots, Grenadine, Japanese Silks, Embroidered Muslins, and other Thin Textures, from 5s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.—198, Regent-street.

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White Grenadine Robe, with Panier, and material for Bodice, 15s. 9d.  
White Net Robe, with Panier, and material for Bodice, trimmed with narrow Satin Ribbon in Black, White, Cerise, Scarlet, Blue, Green, or Pink, 21s.  
Black Net Robe, ditto ditto, in the same colours, 21s.  
White Tulle Robe, with Panier, and material for Bodice, elegantly trimmed with same material in White, Black, Blue, Green, Cerise, or Pink, 25s. 6d.  
Coloured Tulle Robe, with Panier, and material for Bodice, trimmed same colour in White, Black, Green, Lavender, Sky Blue, Cerise, Pink, Mauve, or Maize, 28s. 6d., 33s. 6d., 38s. 6d., 48s. 6d.  
Black Tulle Robes, either all Black, or trimmed White, Gold, or Cerise, 30s. 6d. to 34s.  
BAKER and CRISP, 198, Regent-street.

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SILK and WOOL  
REPPES  
Satins and Alacoe  
Cloths  
French Merinos,  
Velvets,  
Velvetines,  
and all the New  
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Material  
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Present  
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5s. 6d.  
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Warm, elegant, fashionable, support and add grace to the figure. Preserve health by preventing colds and chills. Sold by Drapers in town and country. THOMAS BROS., Chesapeake, London.

**G. POLAND and SON, Fur Manufacturers,**  
90, Oxford-street, beg to inform American Visitors and their numerous Patrons, that, in consequence of the War, they have been able to purchase (considerably below their value) a large Assortment of the very finest RUSSIAN SABLE, Sea Otter, and other valuable Skins, such as are rarely seen in this country.

**SALE of RICH SILKS from LYONS.**  
Messrs. HOWELL, JAMES, and CO. beg to intimate the immense purchases of SILKS and VELVETS effected by them during the war, and to announce, at extraordinarily low rates, will be OFFERED for SALE THIS DAY and during the Month. Catalogues and Patterns post-free to the country on application.  
5, 7, 9, Regent-street, London.

**MARSHALL and SNELGROVE,**  
Silkmerecers, &c., Vere-street and Oxford-street.—The usual JANUARY SALE held by this firm will commence on TUESDAY NEXT, Jan. 3, and terminate early in the following month. The Stock to be offered is much larger than usual, and every article in each department will be found much lessened in price. An inspection by the General Public is respectfully solicited.

## IMPORTANT TO INTENDING PURCHASERS OF SILKS.

Taking advantage of the disturbed state of the markets on the Continent, I have bought the largest and most important Stock of rich PLAIN and FANCY SILKS yet imported, at prices that are greatly to the advantage of all purchasers. As all classes of silks must inevitably be very scarce, and consequently much dearer, in the spring, I would specially advise an early inspection; when this is not convenient, patterns will be forwarded on receipt of a description of the style of silks wished for. The following quotations represent the most desirable portions of the purchase.  
PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, London, W.

**THE STOCK of PLAIN SILK** consists of 1863 pieces of Gros Grains, Poult de Soies, and Glacés, comprising the following:—

800 PIECES of LYONS GLACÉS,  
very bright, and specially adapted for Evening Wear.  
Sixty Shades to select from. £ 15s. 6d. and 3gs. the Dress, 14 yards.  
790 PIECES of RICH GROS GRAINS  
(splendid value), at the following prices, which are quoted by the yard, of which any length will be cut.  
Price 2s. 11½d., 4s. 9½d., 6s. 1½d., and 7s. 6d. per yard.  
207 PIECES of EXTRA RICH DOUBLE WARP POULT DE SOIES,  
comprising fifty-eight new shades.  
Prices £3 19s., £7 7s., and £10 10s. the Robe.

**A SPECIAL WHITE CORDED SILK,**  
20s. 3s. 6d. and 3s. 9d. per yard (any length cut).  
Price 2s. 11½d., 4s. 9½d., 6s. 1½d., and 7s. 6d. per yard.  
are now Selling at the above prices, instead of at 4s. 6d. and 5s. Patterns free.  
PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, London, W.

**AN OPPORTUNITY of BUYING BEST PRINTED FRENCH MUSLINS, Very Cheap.**  
Special Sale of over 2000 Pieces, in every variety of design and colour, suitable for Dinner, or for Smart Wear, at 5½d. to 7½d. per yard. Patterns free.

**IN EVERY VARIETY OF FABRIC. CHEAP and USEFUL DRESSES.**  
New ready, a complete Collection of New Fabrics, 10s. 6d. to 25s. the Dress.

**SPECIAL NOVELTIES FOR LADIES' RICH WINTER DRESSES.**  
Velvet Pile, Silk Poplin, in thirty shades.  
Drap de Dames, Terry Silk Poplin, Popeline de Soies, Drap d'Italie, &c.  
A grand Collection of Patterns, 25s. to 35gs. the Dress.

**IN BLACK, WHITE, and ALL COLOURS. VELVET-VELVETTES.** Very Rich.  
Specially adapted for Ladies' Costumes, Jackets, &c. Patterns free. From 2s. 9d. to 6s. 6d. per yard.

**FOR DINNER and EVENING DRESSES. POIL DE CHEVRE.** Half Price.  
350 pieces of this beautiful fabric, having all the appearance of rich Glacé Silk, 1s. 11½d. the Full Dress, can be had in half and quarter lengths. Light Blue, Mauve, Vert Lumière, Roseau, Grey, Mauve, Orange, Rose, &c.

**TARLATANS and GRENADINES FOR BALL and DINNER DRESSES.**  
Gold and Silver Tarlatans, in Stars, Figures, and Stripes; and Grenadines in every variety of style and colour. A full assortment of patterns post-free.

**FOR WEDDING or EVENING DRESSES. GLACE JAPANESE SILKS,**  
in White, Rose, Silver-Grey, Mauve, Ponceau, Vert-Lumière, &c. Any number of Dresses, same Colour, at 35s. the Dress. The best quality manufactured.

**PETER ROBINSON.**  
Patterns, Prices, and Illustrations sent post-free.  
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Handsome Christmas Presents.  
Velvet Mantles, trimmed Fur, 44 gs. to 50gs.  
Real Seal Fur Jackets, 7 gs. to 20gs.  
**USEFUL CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.**  
Beautiful Cloth Jackets, 2gs. to 5gs.  
Opera Mantles and Jackets, 10s. 9d. to 5gs.  
Waterproof Mantles, 21s. upwards.  
**SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.**  
Indian, French, and Paisley Shawls, Tartan and other Fancy Wool Shawls, 7s. 9d. to 2gs.  
Railway Rugs, 10s. 6d. upwards.  
Fur Carriage Rugs, 2gs. upwards.  
Foot Muffs, 7s. 6d. to 15s.  
Children's Costumes kept ready, in seven sizes.  
Children's Velvet and Cloth Jackets; Children's Jackets, in Seal, Fur, and Polish Ermine, in all sizes.

Now ready, and sent free on application, Illustrations of Water-proofs, Illustrations of Children's Costumes, and the Illustrated Manual of Present Fashions.

**THE MARGUERITE.**  
A New Dress for Ladies' Evening Wear, nicely trimmed, beautifully made, One Guinea.  
Carefully packed for the country.  
Eight Descriptive Illustrations of Evening Dresses, from 1 to 44gs., sent by post free, on application.

**PETER ROBINSON,**  
103 to 108, OXFORD-STREET,  
London.—Patterns free.

**CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.**  
SEWELL and CO. have prepared for Christmas and the New Year, 1871, a choice selection of BALL DRESSES, at very moderate prices.  
Tulle and Net Dresses, 30s.  
Souffle Tulle, from 6s. 11d. to 10s. 6d.  
A pretty Tartan Skirt, trimmed with ribbon, in all colours, from 18s. to £2 5s.  
Ball Dresses complete at a few hours' notice.

**REAL SEALSKIN JACKETS.**  
Ladies' attention is respectfully called to the cheap lot of Real Seal Skin Jackets offered, in all sizes, lengths, and prices. SEWELL and CO., Compton House, Firth-street, Soho-square, W.

**EVENING and BALL DRESSES.** A very large assortment in New Starred Tarlatans, at 2s. 11½d. the Dress—superior to any previous production. Also, New White Stripe Washing Grenadines, at 4s. 11½d. the Dress. A French Manufacturer's Stock. Patterns free.—JOHN HOOPER, 62, Oxford-street, W.

**ALLISON and CO. beg respectfully to announce** that their usual ANNUAL SALE will commence on MONDAY, JAN. 2, and continue throughout the Month. The Stock, having been revised, will present many advantageous features, more particularly in articles of French manufacture. An early visit will be esteemed.—238, 210, 212, Regent-street; and 1 21 and 27, Argyle-street. Business will be suspended on Saturdays at Two o'clock throughout the year.

**FRENCH MERINOES.—Finest Quality and Double Width,** at 2s. per yard, in every Fashionable Colour and Black. It may be important for Ladies to know "that this is the last time of asking." All weavers in France are suffering manufacturing evils; there is a general strike of the looms. No cloth is now being made in France, and the demand for the same is increasing. Help yourselves, Ladies, while you may. Patterns sent.  
HARVEY and CO., Lambeth House, Westminster Bridge.

**FURS from PARIS.—One large Case of** Skins has just turned up, after three months' passage, escaping the perils of flood and field and the vigilance of Messrs. Bismarck, Molke, and Co., arriving late, and sent expressly for money. The whole lot has been sacrificed. Seal Jackets, very finest quality, beautifully lined and finished, at 5gs.  
HARVEY and CO., Lambeth House, Westminster Bridge.

**ROUNDSHOULDERS, Stopping Habits, &c.,** CURED by wearing CHANDLER'S CHEST EXPANDER, for both sexes. Specially adapted to children to assist growth and produce a symmetrical figure.—60, Berners-st., W. Illustrations sent.

## THE LADY'S OWN PAPER.

Dec. 17, 1870.  
"THE WAR AND THE SILK TRADE."—Messrs. W. C. Jay and Co., of Regent-street—a firm known not only to every fair resident in London, but throughout England, and, indeed, we might almost say Europe—have just invited our inspection of one of the largest stocks of French silks that was, perhaps, ever brought together in one establishment. The selection is not only the largest and most excellent also that we have seen, but the circumstances under which it has come into Messrs. Jay's hands enable them to offer the goods at unusually low prices. Lyons being threatened by the Germans, at the great silk manufacturers of the city determined to realize at all hazards their entire stocks, and Messrs. Jay, through their agents, at once purchased immense quantities at literally panic prices. They are therefore enabled to retail at a proportionate decline, and silks are in consequence lower than they are likely to be for a long time again; for, even should the war quickly terminate, it will take manufacturers many a day to get their works in order and replenish their stock, and should it be prolonged, it is difficult to see where any further supply can come from."

**EVENING DRESS.**  
Messrs. JAY have a new and most fashionable assortment of Made-up skirts for evening wear, suitable for ladies who are in mourning, or for those who wear black from choice. Bodices are also made up by experienced dressmakers, if required, in a few hours.

**JANUS CORD.**  
Ladies who at this season of the year choose to wear Black Dresses will find JANUS CORD, at 1½ guinea per yard, one of the most economical and best fabrics manufactured for Ladies' Dresses.  
JAYS.

**COUNTRY LADIES and LONDON FASHIONS.**—The many Advertisements of the day, addressed frequently to the inexperienced, whilst they appear to offer facilities, only perplex Ladies residing at a distance from the metropolis. Our readers may rest assured that the specimens and goods sent by Messrs. JAY will at all times literally agree; and that in dealing with this old-established firm the public will buy at as cheap a cost as in any shop in London.  
JAYS.

The London General Mourning Warehouse,  
217, 249, and 251, Regent-street.

**ANNUAL SALE of WINTER GOODS at REDUCED PRICES.**

ANNUAL SALE on and after MONDAY, 27th Dec. 1870. Fancy SILKS, Silk and Velvet Costumes, Tunics, Ball Dresses, Fancy Woollen Costumes, all kinds of Dress Fabrics, Petticoats, Shawls, Mantles, Seal Skin Jackets, Laces and Fancy Goods, Furs of every description, Tailor-made Suits, and Sheetings, &c. Bonnets, Hats, Flowers, Reunions, Gold Dress Longs, and all Fancy Articles, at nominal prices.  
28 to 62, Oxford-street; 3 to 5, Wells-street, London.

**SILK COSTUMES and LONG SKIRTS,** Costumes in Woolen and Mixed Fabrics, Velvet and Shawl Costumes, Waterproofs, &c., a very large assortment, all ready for immediate wear, at greatly reduced prices.  
Photographs of Shawl Costumes and Waterproofs free.  
GASK and GASK'S Annual Sale.  
28 to 62, Oxford-street; 3 to 5, Wells-street.

**FRENCH SATINE CLOTHS Reduced to** 11½d. per yard, all Colours. Woolen and Silk Rugs, Serges, Cashmere, and all Winter Dress Fabrics at greatly reduced prices. Arctic Down Petticoats and Quilts, Welsh Flannels, Blankets, &c. Patterns forwarded free.  
GASK and GASK'S Annual Sale.  
28 to 62, Oxford-street; 3 to 5, Wells-street.

**SKETCHES FREE of BALL and EVENING DRESSES.**  
**GASK and GASK are now Showing a very Large Assortment of BALL and EVENING DRESSES.**  
Elegant Tulle and Transparent Swiss Muslin Dresses, made-up, 15s. 6d. and 21s.; White and Black Brussels Net Dresses, trimmed Satin, 25s. 6d.; Very Handsome Tulle and Lace Dresses, elaborately trimmed and underclothed, at moderate prices.  
28 to 62, Oxford-street; 3 to 5, Wells-street, London.

**RICHEST GASK GARMENT VELVETS,** from Lyons.—Messrs. HOWELL, JAMES, and CO. are offering, THIS DAY and during the Week, a large quantity of superb Black Velvets of the very richest material, at 10s. 6d., 15s. 6d., and 21s. per yard. Patterns post-free. Five per cent discount for cash.  
Howell, James, and Co., 5, 7, 9, Regent-street, Pall-mall.

**LADIES' CORK-SOLED BOOTS, for** Damp Weather, 21s.; Kid Double-soled Boots, 18s. 6d.; Velvet Flannel-lined Boots, 6s. 6d.; Velvet Slippers, 3s. 6d. Illustrated Catalogues post-free, with notice of convenient arrangements for country residents.  
THOMAS D. MARSHALL, 192, Oxford-street, London.

**BOYS' CLOTHING.**  
HIGH-CLASS  
STYLE and QUALITY.  
Suits, 16s. to 45s.  
OVERCOATS, 11s. to 42s.  
SAMUEL BROTHERS, 50, Ludgate-hill (London).

**THE "BAG of BAGS."—JENNER and KNEWSTUP'S** newly-invented and patented TRAVELLING DRESSING, and WRITING BAGS. "Jenner and Knewstup have effected quite a revolution in travelling-bags."—Post. "Nothing that the inventors of the A B C Despatch Box may devise need surprise anyone."—Punch.  
33, St. James's-street; and 66, Jermyn-street.

**NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.**  
ROWLANDS' MACARAOIL, an improver and beautifier of the skin beyond all precedent.  
ROWLANDS' KALYDO, for imparting a radiant bloom to the complexion and a softness and delicacy to the skin.  
ROWLANDS' ODONTO, or Pearl Dentifrice, for giving a pearl-like whiteness to the Teeth and fragrance to the Breath.  
Sold by Chemists and Perfumers.  
Ask for "Rowlands' Articles."

**USE ONLY THE GLENFIELD STARCH.**  
THE QUEEN'S LAUNDRESS USES NO OTHER.

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## MUSIC.

The only great musical institution still in action during the last two weeks of the year was the Sacred Harmonic Society, which gave its thirty-ninth annual Christmas performance of "The Messiah" yesterday (Friday) week. The occasion was rendered peculiarly interesting by the reappearance of Madame Viardot-Garcia. This great artist (a sister of the late Madame Malibran) was first heard in England as Mdle. Pauline Garcia, at Her Majesty's Theatre, in 1839; and afterwards at the Royal Italian Opera, where she appeared in 1848; from which date, for some ten years, her performances in this country were among the most remarkable displays of dramatic singing on record. As Fides in Meyerbeer's "Prophete," as Valentina in the same composer's "Huguenots," and in many other important parts, Madame Viardot-Garcia attained the highest position as an intellectual and cultivated artist. In her performance of the contralto solos in "The Messiah," last week, it was apparent that ill-health and nervousness interfered with the realisation of the singer's intentions. Some influence may also fairly be assigned to the depression of a sensitive nature at the horrors of the war which has been the cause of the lady's presence here at this time, as of that of many other musical celebrities whose chief home is Paris. The other solo singers in "The Messiah" were Madame Sinico, Mr. Kerr Gedge, and Signor Foli. Mr. Gedge, whom we had not heard recently, exhibited such marked progress that he ought now to take a very good position in the present scarcity of tenors. His commencing recitative and air, and the solo "But Thou didst not leave" were very well sung and much applauded. The oratorio was announced for repetition yesterday (Friday).

Simultaneously with the occasion just referred to an organ performance was given by Mr. W. T. Best (organist of St. George's Hall, Liverpool), at the Hanover-square Rooms, on an instrument which has just been erected there by Messrs. Lewis and Co., of Brixton, to replace that which was removed before the alteration and decoration of the rooms a few years since. In no department of musical art has there been greater progress in this country than in organ-playing. Half a century since, with the exception, perhaps, of such men as Adams and Wesley, we could not compare with the Germans in this respect. The use of the pedals, long indispensable in Germany, was rare among English organists, or at least seldom extended beyond the simplest requirements—long-holding notes or the slowest passages; whereas now we have very many skilful performers accustomed to execute with the feet difficulties equal to those assigned to the hands. Among the most accomplished and eminent English organists is Mr. Best, who is also favourably known by his excellent arrangements and co-positions for his instrument. His performance on Friday night was an admirable display of highly cultivated skill and thorough command of manuals and pedals. The programme included pieces by Bach, Handel, and Mendelssohn, and others of more recent date. The organ which was inaugurated on the occasion referred to is a very fine instrument; combining sweetness of quality with brilliancy. The reed and flute stops are peculiarly good; and the lessee of the Hanover-square Rooms (Mr. Robert Cocks, the eminent music publisher) may be congratulated on the acquisition of an excellent instrument, that must prove valuable both for accompaniment and for solo-playing.

The competition for the Westmorland Scholarship and Potter Exhibition at the Royal Academy of Music took place, last week, at the institution in Tenterden-street, Hanover-square, with the following results:—Westmorland Scholarship—Miss Mary Crawford (elected), Miss Pocklington, Miss Rebecca Jewell, Miss Frith, and Miss Goode (highly commended). Potter Exhibition—Miss Agnes A. Channell (elected), Miss Field, Miss Taylor, Miss Gardner, and Miss Waite (highly commended).

Music will soon again be generally active. The Italian Opera Buffa Company (limited) commences its season at the Lyceum Theatre, on Monday next, with Rossini's "L'Italiana in Algeri;" the Monday Popular Concerts will be resumed in the following week; and the Crystal Palace Saturday afternoon performances on Jan. 21. In a few weeks further we may expect to hear something definite of the arrangements for the regular opera season—two establishments at least being already talked of. The year 1871 is that of the recurrence (in June) of the great triennial Handel Festival held at the Crystal Palace—another great musical celebration being in preparation for the inauguration of the new Albert Hall, at South Kensington. The provincial festival this year (the meeting of the three choirs) will be held at Gloucester.

## CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS.

Christmas has come again, and visits the theatres in the shape of pantomime and burlesque. In authorship these productions exhibit but little novelty, for there is a trade in them which is pursued by a few individuals who make their appearance year after year in the same capacity. Practice and experience give them facility, but there is certainly a mannerism introduced which occasions a certain monotony. Our account of the pantomimes of the present year will necessarily resemble that of the past. Even the same themes are repeated. But all this makes little difference in the enjoyment of playgoers, to whom the old is frequently more dear even than the new.

## DRURY LANE.

Our national theatre possesses attractions in the pantomime way which are undiminished. Mr. E. L. Blanchard still continues to hold the pen which, like a magic wand, gives direction to the fable and expression to those elegant couplets which make his dialogue so terse, charming, and pointed. The title of his libretto is "The Dragon of Wantley; or, Harlequin and Old Mother Shipton." Here he undertakes to show how Baron Moore of Moore Hall encountered the terrible Dragon whose rapacity disposed of houses and churches with ease, but who was not proof against the sword of the gallant knight. One of the earliest scenes that are in any way noticeable is that of the Haunt of the Water Nymphs, in which Mr. Beverley has displayed that marvellous power of landscape-painting in which he has scarcely any rival. The scene is accompanied with an admirable ballet representative of the marriage of the Thames and the Medway. The reader will see by the title that Old Mother Shipton is introduced among the characters, but at first in rather an unfavourable position; for the villagers, being discontented with her prophecies, turn round upon her and threaten her with damage, from which she is rescued—by whom? Baron Moore of Moore Hall, of course. This redoubtable hero is represented by Mr. Fred Vokes, who is assisted by his brother, Mr. Fawden Vokes, as his esquire Jingo. Sir Guy, the Grim Baron of Wantley, now comes on the scene with his retinue, returning from the chase, with a small rabbit on a long pole. The wicked Sir Guy resolves on marrying his ward Lady Joan, by whom he is defied; and the lady makes manifest her preference for Baron Moore, when the Dragon returns, to the

terror of a whole army of children, the offspring of the affrighted villagers. It ends with a characteristic clog-dance, which has to be repeated. Ultimately the Baron's household is in dread of Sir Guy, and the Baron himself is at his wits' end, inasmuch that he promises to marry Mother Shipton herself, if she will but rid him of the nuisance. But the benevolent old lady shows him a more agreeable way. None but the man who weds Lady Joan can conquer the Dragon. The Baron therefore must undertake the task. Encased in spiked armour, he encounters and subdues the Dragon at sunset in the Glen (see our Illustration). The transformation scene represents the World of Waters, and is one of the wonders of Mr. Beverley's invention. The Vokes family appeared both in the opening and in the harlequinade. A ballet called a dance of fancy-work formed a distinguished feature of the latter, and will conduce greatly to the ultimate success of the pantomime.

## COVENT GARDEN.

The pantomime at this house is by Messrs. Gilbert à-Beckett and C. H. Ross, who have chosen the subject of "The Sleeping Beauty" for illustration. They have kept tolerably close to the story. After the christening of the Princess and the distribution of the baptismal presents, occurs the fatal discovery that the Fairy Maligna has not been invited, when the spiteful elf enters and dooms the infant Dolfondella to die of the prick of a spindle. Accordingly she is carried off to Fairyland by Hygenia, who there provides her with a suitor in Sir I. O. Hugh de Basinghall (Mr. W. H. Payne), who, with his squire Chevy Chase (Mr. F. Payne), live in a condition of poverty, and have to submit to the insults of a discontented housekeeper (Mr. Taylor). The Princess is now fourteen, and the Fairy proposes that the impecunious knight should wait seven years, to which he is disinclined, but is forced to submit, for the Fairy sends him to sleep for the period. Meanwhile, the Princess enjoys herself, and her enjoyments take the shape of a picturesque ballet, presenting the gambols of the elves. But even the Paradise of Bliss may weary, and the Princess, insisting on returning home, pays the penalty and suffers from the spindle. Hygenia charms her then to a hundred years' sleep. At the end of that time Sir I. O. Hugh wakes and finds himself old; but his youth is renewed, and he starts in quest of the Sleeping Beauty. A scene in the Enchanted Forest in which the trees assume a demoniacal life and expression is so good that it must bring into prominence the name of Mr. Caney, the artist. The Princess is awakened, but has retained the age of fourteen, so that the fairy has to exert her power and equalise her years with those of Sir Hugh, when, of course, all ends happily. The youth of the lady comes out prominently when self-compared with the sheep and shepherds, French and Prussian soldiers, represented by her toys, which are as large as herself. (See our Illustration.) We have also to notice with approbation another of Mr. Caney's scenes—namely, The Valley of a Thousand Streams. Mr. Julian Hicks has the honour of the transformation scene, called The Home of the Enchanted Bells. The harlequinade, as usual supported by the Paynes, was decidedly effective.

## HAYMARKET.

Mr. Gilbert's fairy drama, "The Palace of Truth," is so successful that Mr. Buckstone announces that any other Christmas piece is unnecessary. We have given an illustration of the subject which includes certain suggestions, in a kind of allegorical manner, that bring before the mind some of the more touching situations. These will be readily recognised. This delightful play will no doubt have a prolonged success.

## ADELPHI.

Mr. H. B. Farnie has supplied the burlesque at this house, entitled "The Mistletoe Bough." Mr. Farnie has depended on the name and apparently not troubled himself with narrative or story, trusting to his rhymed dialogue, which he rattles off with boldness and skill. The piece is provided with all the accessories of the stage, which impart to it a brilliancy well calculated to dazzle the eyes of the habitués of this popular house. Our illustration shows the scene that takes place after the elopement of Lady Nancy and Lochinvar, which is one of the great events of the action, when the company assembled at Yuletide are thrown into a state of wonder what has become of the lady, and a suggestion is made that the old oak chest should be searched. What they find our picture will show. The scenery is by Messrs. Lloyds and Maughan, and the general arrangements such as to ensure a prosperous issue.

## OPERA COMIQUE

The new Strand theatre produced on Monday, as we had announced, a new version of "Our Mutual Friend," under the title of "Found Drowned." With our recollections of "The Golden Dustman," as produced a few seasons ago, we could not but be disappointed with the result. Mr. G. F. Rowe (to whom, we believe, we are indebted for the present adaptation) took the opposite parts of John Harmon and Rogue Riderhood. We venture to hint that this was a decided mistake: the latter part would have better suited Mr. McIntyre, who played Silas Wegg. With a strong company, all the members of it seemed misfitted; and, with the exception of Miss Rose Lisle as Bella Wilfer and Mrs. Manders as Mrs. Boffin, were evidently out of place. The piece was played in four acts; the last did not commence until twelve o'clock. The set scenery was well arranged and painted by Mr. Albert Calcott, but hardly compensated for the dreary hours of misdirected talent employed before it.

## GLOBE.

Mr. Burnand has supplied the Globe Theatre with a new fairy burlesque extravaganza, entitled "The White Cat; or, Prince Lardi Dardi and the Radiant Rosetta." We much regret that the author should have been so reckless as to throw such an undigested mass before a well-disposed audience. The Princess Rosetta has been turned into a White Cat by a spiteful fairy, from which ultimately she is rescued by a good one. The conclusion presents the Happy Lands of Waking Dreams. Little occurs in the dialogue to relieve the dreary weight of such a commonplace story; and, with the exception of Mr. Danvers, the performers did scarcely anything to help forward the action. The scenery is pretty, but not remarkable.

## STRAND.

The management of the Strand anticipated Christmas by producing, on the preceding Thursday, a new burlesque, entitled "Cœur de Lion Revised and his Enemies Corrected." Mr. John Strachan, the author, has done his work carefully. We witness the departure, by railway, of Cœur de Lion and his troops for the Crusades, and are interested in the plots of the Barons and the loves of Sir Kenneth and Edith Plantagenet. Richard in Palestine, sick and attended by Saladin, is a happy notion well executed. But the great hit of the performance is the make-up of Mr. Paulton, as the Austrian Archduke, in the likeness of Count Bismarck. He had also to sing a comic song about Baden-Baden, which was encored more than once, and will probably make the fortune of the piece. Mr. Paulton has a great variety of action and character, and in all its phases was clever and forcible. The piece needs compression, but is so good that no doubt can be entertained of its prosperity.

## STANDARD.

The pantomime at the Bishopsgate theatre is always a costly and splendid affair, and this year an endeavour has been successfully made to excel the doings of former years. "Ride-a-Cock-Horse to Banbury Cross; or, Harlequin and the Silver Amazons," is the title; but the theme is laxly treated, dependence being placed on operative accessories, and these are of the first quality. The Princess Zoluko is wooed by a number of suitors, one of whom she marries, and ought to take the famous ride in the story, but her place is taken by a doctor, personated by Mr. Wallace, who manages the property-horse in a manner to provoke merriment. Eventually the Doctor is thrown high and dry upon the mountains, where the Silver Amazons, in grand style, march to his relief. There are also an assault of arms and a sham fight by one hundred ladies habited in silver costumes, and two or three ballets. War songs likewise abound. The "Marseillaise," sung by Miss Russell, carried off the honours. The transformation scene is worked by machinery—a patent steam-shaft—which facilitates the production of effects not otherwise obtainable. It represents the haunts of winter gradually dissolving, to disclose what is called The Vision of a Summer's Eve. The scenery is throughout elaborate, and does great credit to Mr. Richard Douglass and Mr. J. Neville.

## SURREY

The name of the pantomime at the great transpontine theatre was "My Son Jack, or, Harlequin Mother Goose," arranged by Mr. Henderson—a piece supported by good scenery and acting, but of which the dialogue could not be heard owing to the noise made by an unruly lot of spectators, who amused themselves at the expense of the audience. An accident occurred to M. Dewine, who injured his foot in the ballet. Mr. E. T. Smith, who has undertaken the conduct of this house, should contrive means for keeping his patrons in sufficient order to enable those who are willing to listen to learn something of the plot and characters.

## ASTLEY'S.

Mr. John Baum is the present manager of Astley's Theatre, and has employed Mr. H. B. Farnie to write him an introductory piece, entitled "The Crimson Scarf," which was distinctly heard. The following pantomime is entitled "Harlequin Little Tom Tittlemouse and the Eleven Dancing Princesses; or, Deedle Deedle Dimple and the Silver Frog." It is impossible in a limited space to detail the manner in which the nursery rhymes on which it has been founded are utilised in the course of the action. The scenery, designed and painted by Messrs. T. Grieve and Son, is excellent; and the ballet excited the greatest applause. The transformation represented the jewelled palace of the Peri. Where all is so splendid, it is difficult to mark out any feature for special notice.

## PRINCESS'S.

Several of the theatres took advantage of Christmas Day being on Sunday, and produced their festival entertainment on Christmas Eve. Accordingly several of the pieces were acted—or, rather, we should say, rehearsed—on Saturday. The Princess's Theatre, now under the dominion of Messrs. Webster and Chatterton, reopened with its so-called novelty, an extravaganza founded on Dickens's "Christmas Carol; or, Past, Present, and Future," originally produced at the Adelphi. Bob Cratchet was sustained by Mr. J. Murray; Old Scrooge, by Mr. Vollaire; Mrs. Cratchet, by Mrs. Power; Peter Cratchet, by Miss De Vere; and Tiny Tim, by Miss Abrahams. Then followed a real novelty, entitled, "Little Gil Blas, and How he Played the Spanish D(j)uce," which exhibited Mr. H. B. Farnie's talents in a favourable light, especially in regard to the facility of his versification and the elaboration of his puns and rhymes. It opened with the well-known robbers' cave, and the captives, Dr. Sangrado (Mr. S. Barry) and Leonarda (Mrs. Power). Gil Blas descends through the roof, in the person of Mrs. Howard Paul, leading a brigand-troop, who have taken Aurora (Miss Lydia Maitland). Gil Blas, we know, is elected their captain, and then escapes; afterwards the captives are delivered by the police force, represented by one liliputian officer, and the band surrenders. We then have the courtship of Cleophas (Miss Lennox Gray) and Aurora, and his sly plot to rid himself of his uncle, Don Vincent (Mr. Wilmot), by means of Dr. Sangrado, defeated, however, by Gil Blas, who takes service with Cleophas. Florimonde (Miss Mary Holt) now invades the scene with Laura (Miss Lizzie Russell), and in company with Gil Blas begin a diverting action, which is disturbed by Zapata (Mr. Guy Linton) the father of the actress, who becomes the tool of Cleophas and so-called brigand Rolando (Miss M. Sidney) in a plot to entrap the young Infante. We cannot exactly follow the loves and fortunes of Gil and Laura. Constrained by their poverty to make an attack on the festival pie of some Andalusian villagers, Dr. Sangrado, Zapata, and Gil get into trouble, but are rescued by Don Vincent and Quinola his servant (Mr. H. Clive). Rolando and Cleophas come in aid, and a grand banquet and bull-fight terminate the adventure. Next, we see Gil in his prosperity, as the Senor de Santillane, with the incidents of the masked ball, his arrest, and the hopelessness of his love for Florimonde, who is now claimed by Zapata, her husband. Ultimately Rolando's troop throw off their disguises and reveal themselves as the brigands of the opening scene. The piece is placed on the boards with costly accessories and scenery. The scene of the bull-fight extorted most applause (see our Illustration), Miss Jenny Elliot representing the bull. But that of the robbers' cave deserves commendation, and the concluding one of the lamplit orange-grove belonging to Gil's palace is really magnificent. For this we are indebted to the taste of Mr. Lloyds. The acting is above all praise. Mrs. Howard Paul was all herself in the part of the eccentric hero, and her singing was, like her acting, excellent.

## THE GAIETY.

This theatre celebrated the season with a new ballet, called "Tartuffe," Mr. Boucicault's version of "The Cricket on the Hearth," and an operative extravaganza written by Mr. Alfred Thompson, with music composed by Hervé, and called "Aladdin the Second." In this a Japanese element extensively prevails, and the whole is illustrated with great splendour and remarkable ingenuity. The comic situations are especially peculiar and ludicrous, much of it connected with Japanese mechanics. The piece is rather long, but the story is brief. The Princess Velontine, the daughter of Ozokerit the Light-Headed, is led to visit the shop of Ke-kil-ko in search of her pot dog, which she has lost. Aladdin, the shopman, falls incontinently in love with her, but Ke-kil-ko does what he can to disturb his wooings. However, Aladdin is a match for him in many respects. By rubbing his lamp he is enabled to have his will of his evil-disposed master, and actually transforms him into a jack-in-the-box, a contrivance which is much aided by the ingenious acting of Mr. Toole. Ozokerit, the tyrant, purchases the toy, and sends it with Aladdin to the palace. We cannot trace the humour further; suffice it that Aladdin and the Princess jump into a bath together after the lamp, and Ozokerit fishes for them with a



diving-bell. While thus employed Ko-kill-ko usurps the Royal authority. But the complication thus caused soon yields to the condition of a happy ending, inevitable to an entertainment of this character. With all its merit, this composition has a great fault—it is immensely too long. The company did their best to promote its success.

## SADLER'S WELLS

also took advantage of Christmas Eve, and produced Mr. Nelson Lee's pantomime of "Sinbad, the Sailor; or, Harlequin Navigation, and the Great Roc of the Diamond Valley." This pantomime, for stage purposes, is altogether up to the mark. It opens with an astrological chamber, where Zadkiel is preparing the Almanack for 1871; but he is intruded upon by Captain Ali Kampane, who wants a love potion to enable him to win the affections of the Princess Preciosa, who loves Sinbad. The fairies resolve to protect the latter, and combine in a ballet arranged by Madame Louise. Here, too, we have an Ozokerit, for so it has pleased Mr. Lee to name the Old Man of the Sea, who plots with Boreas to injure Sinbad; but the fairy Navigation opposes their malicious efforts. Mrs. Brown, also, appears by the license of Arthur Sketchley, and is bothered by the arrangements of the steam-boat under Captain Ali Kampane, waiting in the Bassora seaport. This captain, in spite of Mrs. Brown and her umbrella, carries off the Princess. Ozokerit likewise seduces Sinbad with tales of diamond-mines; and a capital panorama, painted by Mr. W. Grieve, shows the way to the Diamond Valley. Ozokerit pushes Sinbad over a coral reef, thereby saving himself from a gorilla; and Mrs. Brown drinks the potion intended for the Princess and shows its effects ludicrously, of course. Preciosa is borne by Ozokerit to the Enchanted Forest, but is saved by the Fairy True Love. The transformation scene, by Mr. Gowrie, was superb; and the artist received the plaudits of the house. Sinbad was finely acted by Mrs. J. L. Warner, and Ozokerit was done justice to as he deserved by Minnie Davis. In the harlequinade Mr. Giovannelli, jun., was excellent as Clown. Altogether, this pantomime is a decided hit.

## THE GRECIAN.

The new pantomime at the Grecian sustains the credit of the management. To this it is indispensable that opportunity should be given for Mr. George Conquest to show his marvellous agility. The work is entitled "Herne the Hunter; or, Harlequin, the Demon's Oak, the Maid, the Monarch, and Young Mischief." The title-role is enacted by Mr. George Conquest, who appears amidst the scenery of Windsor Forest, which might almost remind us of Pope's exquisite poem on the subject. He and King Hal are in love with Mabel Linwood (Miss Dorling). He is assisted in his numerous disguises by Young Mischief (Master Conquest). Ultimately they carry off Mabel and Anne Boleyn to the Cave of Despair. They are liberated by the Kind Fairy. The transformation scene is gorgeous, and Mr. Messenger richly merited the plaudits of the audience. The ballet was a curious blending of the beautiful and the grotesque.

## THE ALFRED.

Under Mr. Giovannelli's management the Marylebone deserves more than usual attention. The pantomime here produced has for its title "Harlequin Prince Pippo, and the Fairy Queen of the Magic Spoons." We cannot afford room for the programme, in which the plot is set forth at large suffice it that the incidents are founded on those of the Maid and the Magpie. Miss Eliza Hamilton did her best to make Prince Pippo, the rightful heir of Spoonyeeland, interesting, and succeeded in pleasing her audience. The transformation scene was a success; and we have to congratulate the new management on the auspicious circumstances under which they have commenced their conduct of a theatre which for so long has struggled with what have appeared to be hopeless difficulties.

## THE CRYSTAL PALACE

The pantomime at the Crystal Palace is by Mr. Farnie, and went off well. It is founded on Swift's great satirical novel of "Gulliver," and deals with the subject of his travels in a masterly style. Of the Liliputian element there is ample example. The grotesque forms, gigantic figures, the Brobdingnag sports, and other oddities are sufficiently exciting. Gulliver himself is adroitly personated by Miss Caroline Parkes, driven by insolvency, as we learn by the introductory scene, on his travels (see our Illustration). Both the palace and the grounds were crowded with working people.

We must content ourselves with stating the title of the pantomime at the Victoria, "Nimble Nip; or, the Pig that went to Market, the Pig that stayed at Home, and the Elves of the Lily Lake," by Mr. F. Marchant. At the East London, the name is "Harlequin and the White Cat, and the Magic Sapphire; or, the Two Pretty Princes and the Two Fairy Gifts," by Mr. R. Soutar. At the Oriental, "Dame Trot; or, Harlequin Babes in the Wood, and Little Red Riding Hood."

The Philharmonic Music-Hall at Islington is now converted into a playhouse, called the Theatre of Varieties. Thus the management is enabled, with the sanction of the Lord Chamberlain, to revive "Chilperic" and to produce a new burlesque, by Mr. F. Vendervell, entitled "Prince Love, or, the Fays of the Forest."

A French lady, who has been sojourning in this country, has written a letter on the incapacity of Englishwomen in what (she says) Frenchwomen consider to be the first duties of their everyday life—knowing how to mend, to cut out, sew, knit, wash, cook, to look nice, and make all around you look nice, even with the smallest means.

A most melancholy accident happened in Berkshire last Saturday. Mr. John Walter, M.P., of Bearwood, near Wokingham, Berks, accompanied by his eldest son and other members of the family, and by Captain Edward Walter, his lady, and family, went to Bearwood Lake for an afternoon's recreation on the ice. While all were enjoying themselves the ice gave way near the island, and Mr. John Walter, jun., and Masters Tom Walter, Francis Walter, Henry Walter, and Richard, the son of Captain Walter, were immersed. The lake, which covers a space of about eighty acres, was at this spot thirty feet deep. Mr. Arthur Walter, James Rackley, the boat-keeper, and others, hastened to the rescue; while Mr. John Walter, jun., nobly endeavoured to keep his immersed brothers and cousin from sinking. The ice, however, continually broke under their grasp, and the hole became wider. Eventually four of the party were rescued, and there is no doubt that the saving of three out of the four is due to the heroic exertions of Mr. John Walter, jun. He was last seen endeavouring to lift and throw the youngest of the party towards the margin of the ice, where assistance was at hand, when he sank, probably from sheer exhaustion. His body was not recovered until nearly seven o'clock, when life was extinct. The deceased was a young man of great promise, and had only recently returned, by way of New York and San Francisco, from a long course of Eastern travel.

## NEW BOOKS AND NEW EDITIONS.

A variety of new publications still crowd upon our notice, some more especially belonging to this season of the year, some demanding early attention for their merits or the interest of their subjects. It is an agreeable task upon this and all other occasions to give the praise which is deserved, and this office should be delayed no longer than is needful to obtain the space and leisure demanded for its right performance. There are some works, of course, which deserve no praise at all; but these, where not positively mischievous, may fitly be passed over in silence.

The lover of natural history will find a rich treat in the handsome volume published by Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin—*The Transformations (or Metamorphoses) of Insects*, by Dr. P. Martin Duncan, F.R.S., Professor of Geology in King's College, London. It is not an original and independent work, but an adaptation, for English readers, of M. Emile Blanchard's "Metamorphosis, Mœurs et Instincts des Insectes," with additions compiled from the works of George Newport, Charles Darwin, Spence Bate, Sir J. Lubbock, Fritz Müller, Packard, Stainton, and other writers. It pursues a scientific method of discussion in a popular descriptive style, which is not spoiled by the affected rhetorical liveliness or the misapplied pleasantry that sometimes offends a sober taste in French treatises of this kind. Beginning, after a few general remarks on the conditions of insect life, with an examination of the nature of their metamorphosis and of the structures of their body implicated in these changes, it shows the alterations of external form in the abdomen, thorax, and head, each of which is constituted by a distinct set of rings or body-sections. These are indicated first; and, next, the modifications undergone by the digestive, nervous, and respiratory organs. A particular account is then given of the life-progress of each principal order of insects—the lepidoptera, or scale-winged, including moths and butterflies; the hymenoptera, with transparent membranous wings, in which most interesting order the ant and bee are comprised; the coleoptera, or sheath-winged, which includes beetles; the orthoptera, or those with straight-folded wings, amongst which are crickets and grasshoppers; the hemiptera, as bugs and plant-lice; the aphaniptera, fleas; the diptera, or two-winged, as gnats; and several others, to which are subjoined the myriopoda, or many-footed class, though not true insects; and the arachnida, spiders, scorpions, and others; besides the crustacea, lobsters, shrimps, crabs, and so on, which come into the classification of articulated animals, and which also display some wonderful transformations. If the beauty of the lepidoptera, in the perfect insect, is at first sight most attractive, the hymenoptera, by their amazing instinctive capacity of social organisation, present a far more interesting object of study. We would refer in particular to the sixth chapter of the book, which describes the habits of the ant family and the bee family—their industrial, generative, and conservative offices, the construction of their nests and collection of their food, as well as their development from the larva to the pupa, and to the adult insect, of male, female, or working neuter sex. The beautiful woodcuts with which this work is profusely illustrated, numbering about fifty full-page engravings, and nearly three hundred smaller ones inserted in the text, are drawn with admirable truth as representations of nature, and with exquisite artistic finish. The volume is carefully printed on fine paper, and forms altogether one of the best publications of its class. In connection with this branch of natural history we must commend a little book issued by Messrs. Macmillan and Co., *The Population of an Old Pear-Tree*, translated from the French of M. E. Van Bruyssel, and edited by the author of "The Ileir of Redclyffe." It is a playful and fanciful narrative of the actual doings of a variety of common field insects, the spider and the fly, the ant, the woodlouse, the cockchafer, the mole-cricket, the different beetles, the earwig, the ladybird, and many others; viewing them close to the eye, as in a little world of their own, and ascribing to those tiny creatures such motives of passion and ambition as those which animate the human race. A vein of serious moral reflection underlies the pleasant account of the diminutive people whom we are too apt to despise. The engravings, designed by Becker, are numerous and good, sometimes very droll and grotesque, sometimes very correct delineations of real objects. An extremely pretty book of the same class is *Birds and Flowers*, by Mary Howitt, with eighty-seven drawings on wood by Giacomelli, whose illustrations of Michelet's eloquent rhapsody on "The Bird" have been justly praised. This is published by Messrs. T. Nelson and Sons; and Mrs. Howitt's graceful little poems are worthily accompanied by such refined specimens of graphic art, at once truthful and delightful. The same publishers have issued *Pictures and Stories of Natural History*, a series of cheap little books with highly-coloured figures for very young children; and an elegant packet of *Humming Birds*, more acceptable than a valentine. Mrs. Alfred Gatty, author of "Parables from Nature," has produced a small volume, published by Messrs. Bell and Daldy, called *Waifs and Strays of Natural History*, telling us of coral islands, sponges, and zoophytes; of the habits of the beaver; of the transmigrations of vegetable species, and other such curious matters. A fifth series of her "Parables" has also come out, tenderly thoughtful in spirit, but only "milk for babes."

Several of the new books which are suitable for youthful readers combine the lively presentment of facts in nature with a narrative of real or fictitious adventures, giving a continuous personal interest to the whole. *Adventures of a Young Naturalist*, adapted from the French of Lucien Biart, by Mr. Parker Gilmore, author of "Gun, Rod, and Saddle," of "Accessible Field Sports," and "All Round the World," is a good example of this kind. The publishers are Messrs. Sampson Low, Son, and Marston. It purports to relate the journey of a high-spirited and intelligent boy through the Cordilleras of Mexico, his encounters with diverse wild animals, and his observations of the birds, insects, plants, and other natural phenomena of that region. It is full of lively incident and dialogue, as well as of entertaining anecdotes and substantial knowledge. There are plenty of engravings to set off the story. M. Paul du Chaillu, the well-known West African traveller, has dedicated "to his young friends" a fresh book of roving and hunting experiences, entitled *My Apingi Kingdom, with Life in the Great Sahara*. The Apingi country is situated just south of the equator, and is a land of wonders. It seems that when M. du Chaillu was there the savage people thought so much of him that they worshipped him as a super-human being, and chose him for their King, besides offering him forty-three nice girls for his wives. He left them, however, and went to Senegal, whence he penetrated into the Great Desert, and made himself a familiar acquaintance of lions, ostriches, hyenas, and other wild creatures, of which he has much to tell. The more authentic *Story of Captain Cook's Three Voyages Round the World*, abridged and edited by M. Jones, is published by Cassell in a compact small volume, with a number of illustrations. Messrs. Routledge bring out a new edition of *The Hunting Grounds of the Old World*, by Major H. A. Leveson

"The Old Shekarry," whose exploits in India, Circassia, and Algeria are not unknown to fame. Among the minor works of popular descriptive science, we may notice *The Broad, Broad Ocean*, by Mr. William J. Nes, F.S.A., of Barnstaple, which Messrs. F. Warne and Co. have just sent out; it is a comprehensive view of the chief seas upon our globe—the Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic, and Antarctic; with an account of icebergs, whales, seals, various fishes, marine vegetation, sea-birds, sea-insects, and sea-reptiles, the atmospheric phenomena of the ocean, its fabled monsters and prodigies, and its "sentinels," or lighthouses and signal-stations. Upon the last-named topic, however, *Lighthouses and Lightships*, by Mr. Davenport Adams (T. Nelson and Sons), is a separate treatise. Mr. Robert Ball, professor of applied mathematics in the Royal College of Science at Dublin, has revised a translation of the work of M. Rodolphe Radau, *Wonders of Acoustics, or the Phenomena of Sound* (published by Cassell), which may be read along with Professor Tyndall's lectures upon that subject. Young minds requiring to have their intelligent curiosity aroused, and enticed to these matters of inquiry, by a little fiction of romance, may be fitly presented with the *Autobiographies*, by Anne Carey, of a lump of coal, a grain of salt, a drop of water, a bit of old iron, and a piece of flint, contained in one neat small volume, which Cassell has brought out. The abundance and general excellence of the publications serving to popularise the study of nature should be hailed as a good sign of these times.

Of the books specially appropriate to this season, or to the commencement of a new year, we have spoken in former notices. An elegant volume produced by Macmillan, illuminated on every page with designs of native British flowers and foliage, contains the series of *Collects of the Church of England*, the plant selected in each instance being one likely to be in bloom on the day when the collect is read. *Church Design for Congregations*, by Mr. James Cubitt, architect (Smith Elder, and Co.), is a treatise of not merely professional interest; and the same remark may be applied to the *Mansions of England in the Olden Time* (H. Sotheran and Co.), edited by Mr. Corbet Anderson, with a hundred fine lithographic views; and to Mr. G. Ledwell Taylor's *Autobiography of an Octogenarian Architect*, a record of his extensive researches and experiences at home and abroad, published by Longmans. *The Recovery of Jerusalem*, a substantial volume issued by Mr. Bentley, consists of the collected reports of the agents of the Palestine Exploration Fund committee—Captain Wilson, Lieutenant Warren, and others—whose operations and valuable discoveries are known to our readers. The collection is edited by Mr. Walter Morrison, M.P., with an introduction by Dean Stanley; there are many engravings, maps, and plans, as well as views of landscapes or buildings. We reserve for more deliberate examination such books as *The Life of Brunel*, by his son (Longmans); Mr. J. C. Jeaffreson's *Annals of Oxford* (Hurst and Blackett); and several volumes of original poetry, moral essays, or *belles lettres*, which seem to merit a perusal. Miss Julia Goddard's *Wonderful Stories from Northern Lands* (Longmans), with an introduction by the Rev. G. W. Cox, is an adaptation of some of the grand old Scandinavian legends, about Thor and Balder, the Frost-Giants and the Wolf Fenris, to the amusement or edification of English boys and girls. It is furnished with six rather striking illustrative designs. *The Story of Don Quixote* (Cassell) has likewise been rewritten for young folk by C. L. Matéaux, and appears in a simplified and abridged form, but with Gustave Doré's illustrations. A new edition of Mr. Cowden Clarke's *Riches of Chaucer*, being the modernised and expurgated text of that poet, is put forth by Messrs. Lockwood and Co.; along with his *Tales from Chaucer*, in prose, for the reading of children. Routledge's complete edition of *The Poetical Works of Longfellow*, illustrated by John Gilbert, contains "The New England Tragedies," in addition to all his former writings in verse. The same publisher, jointly with Messrs. Novello, gives us *National Nursery Rhymes and Nursery Songs*, set to music by J. W. Elliott, with a number of very pleasing illustrations, engraved by the Brothers Dalziel from designs by many clever artists, and forming one of the most attractive books of this season.

## POSTAL NOTICES.

Notice has been given by the Post Office authorities that, after Jan. 1, the weight allowed for a single letter addressed to any part of Italy will be increased to half an ounce.

The regulations relating to the registration of publications for transmission abroad at the newspaper rates have been revised. Henceforward only those publications which have been accepted for registration will be forwarded at those rates. Publications not on the revised register, such as magazines, private trade lists, and catalogues, cannot, after the 31st inst., be sent abroad at rates lower than those applicable to book packets. Newspapers sent out of the country must be posted within eight days from the date of publication.

The arrangements which have hitherto existed for receiving and forwarding letters, newspapers, reviews, and parcels through the Foreign Office to her Majesty's missions and consulates will cease from this time. A reasonable number of letters of limited size and weight, provided they are delivered at the Foreign Office free of portage or postage charge, will be forwarded to members of missions to which messengers or bags by British packets are periodically dispatched. Similar facilities will be accorded to consular officers who are connected with or are subordinate to such missions. No newspapers or parcels for her Majesty's missions or consulates will be received at the Foreign Office.

The first meeting of the Conference on the neutralisation of the Black Sea, under the Treaty of Paris of 1856, is fixed for Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1871.

The Exhibition of Art and Industry at Athens has been opened. Professor Bussakis, the new Rector of the University, has inaugurated his term of office by a lecture "On the Progress of Natural Science in Greece."

His Excellency Lord Mayo, the Viceroy of India, has been making a valuable collection of natural historical objects illustrative of the fauna, ornithology, &c., of the Indian Empire. A portion of these valuable acquisitions—principally birds and some insects—was brought to England by the Countess, and has been most carefully set up in natural form under her particular direction. They constitute a collection of high interest and beauty.

The correspondent at San Francisco of the *Indépendance Belge* relates three audacious robberies on the Pacific Railway by bands of armed men. Their mode of proceeding is to sever the train from the engine, compel the engine-driver by threats to steam off at full speed, and then plunder the train at their leisure. 41,000 dols. in gold were carried off on one occasion, and 3000 dols. on another. The perpetrators of these daring robberies are supposed to be Federal soldiers, deserters from the camp at Halleck.









CRYSTAL PALACE

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS.



## FROM INSIDE PARIS.

BY BALLOON POST.

## TWELFTH WEEK OF THE SIEGE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

*Sunday, Dec. 4.*—Although the Parisians learnt from the *Journal Officiel* of this morning that the army under the command of General Ducrot had in the course of yesterday recrossed the Marne and had bivouacked last night in the Bois de Vincennes, they seem by no means to have lost heart with regard to the eventual result of the sortie. They accept with seeming confidence the explanation given by the Government of this retrograde movement—namely, that the troops had been concentrated at this point in order to give effect to certain future operations; and, believing the retreat to have been purely strategic, they continue to look hopefully forward to a junction being effected with one or other of the armies marching to the relief of Paris. Some say that the troops were obliged to retire into warmer quarters and seek such dubious shelter from the severity of the weather as the leafless trees of Vincennes might afford them, owing to their being unprovided with warm clothing; and a general opinion prevails that a new engagement will take place to-morrow. The excitement, naturally enough, is considerable, for everyone believes the dénouement to be approaching; nevertheless, perfect quiet everywhere prevails. Indeed, we have long been without demonstrations of any kind, and the city has altogether a more serious aspect than it has presented at any previous time since the commencement of the siege. In the evening the boulevards were in a perfect ferment, rumours, which appeared to be generally credited, being current that the Prussians had evacuated Versailles; and, spite of the intense cold, immense crowds assembled in the cafés and around the newspaper kiosks, in the hope of finding the information officially confirmed in the late editions of the evening papers.

The *Journal Officiel* contains a letter from Monseigneur Bauer, Archbishop of Paris, late Confessor of the ex-Empress Eugénie and present chaplain of the Ambulance de la Presse, complaining of the Prussians having fired upon him while advancing by sound of trumpet and with a flag of truce to parley with them respecting the removal of the French wounded in front of Champs-Élysées. That there has been desperate fighting in the neighbourhood of the Marne is evident from the fact of the Government having made an appeal to the inhabitants of Paris urging them to notify what beds they can place at its disposition for the benefit of the less seriously wounded, in the event of the hospitals and ambulances not being able to provide the requisite accommodation for the victims of the recent sortie.

An official decree notifies that a credit of 500,000*fr.* has been opened in the Budget of the city of Paris to establish additional soup-kitchens for the relief of the indigent population; and an Englishman, Mr. Richard Wallace, who has contributed largely towards the support of some seven or eight hundred of his necessitous fellow-countrymen, ever since the commencement of the siege, has just given a couple of hundred thousand francs towards providing firing for the Paris poor. At the present moment the amount of misery resulting from actual want and the severity of the weather must be very great. Still, no one complains; and, whatever divergence of political opinion there may be between the lower orders and the classes above them, there is a singular unity of sentiment with regard to the measure of the privations which both are prepared to undergo consequent upon the resistance à outrance that has been determined upon.

Most of the Paris newspapers have been lately expressing their undisguised satisfaction at the prospect of a war ensuing between Russia and Great Britain with reference to the Black Sea question, which, according to the news that reaches us from the outside, would appear to be imminent. It is, naturally enough, hoped by some that England's first act would be to send an army of relief to France, and take the Prussians in the rear so as to free her old ally, without whose assistance they conceive she would be no match for her Northern enemy. Others, however, believe that it would be the policy of England to preserve the status quo in France, so that Russia might be deprived of any chance of assistance from United Germany.

*Monday, Dec. 5.*—The main incident of the day has been the appearance of a proclamation addressed from Vincennes by General Ducrot to the Army of the Marne, as the troops under his command in the recent sortie are already being styled. He tells his soldiers candidly enough that "after two days' glorious battles he had caused them to recross the Marne because he was convinced that further efforts in that direction would be fruitless, since the enemy had had time to concentrate his forces and prepare the means of action, and that, had they persisted, it would have involved the useless sacrifice of thousands of brave men. The conflict," he says, "has only ceased for a moment, to be resumed with courage and with hearts raised to the height of the sacrifice demanded by the holy cause for which they must not hesitate to lay down their lives." General Schmitz supplements the foregoing by the assertion that "during the glorious days of the sortie the losses of the enemy were so considerable that for the first time since the commencement of the campaign he allowed an army which he had attacked violently the evening before to cross a river in broad daylight without offering it the smallest molestation." Rumours are current of a serious quarrel having taken place between Generals Ducrot and Blanchard with reference to this step of recrossing the Marne, which the latter is understood not only to have condemned, but to have offered the most energetic opposition to.

*Tuesday, Dec. 6.*—The Commander-in-Chief of the National Guard has issued an order of the day condemning the abuse of the practice which prevails of allowing substitutes in marching companies, whereby married men with families act as substitutes for young unmarried men, and he strictly forbids all transfers of National Guards from marching into Sedentary companies for the future.

Two Generals who were seriously wounded in the recent sortie expired to-day within a few hours of each other. One of them, General Renault, died of the forty-fifth wound received by him during a military career of nearly half a century. While leading on a battalion of Garde Mobile of the Seine Inférieure to recover possession of the ground which the French had lost during the engagement on the 2nd, his foot was crushed by a splinter from a shell, which involved his being lifted off his horse and carried from the field of battle. It was hoped to preserve his life by amputating the injured limb, but fever supervened, and his fate was speedily sealed. General Lacharrière received his death wound on the day of the 30th, when, after being injured in his right hand, he transferred his sword to his left and rode at the head of his men until, wounded anew in the thigh, he fell fainting from his horse owing to the loss of blood. The name of a third victim may be added, that of the gallant young Colonel Franchetti,

commander of the Eclaireurs of the Seine, likewise wounded in the recent sortie, who expired a day or two ago.

In the evening a couple of letters which had passed between Count Moltke and General Trochu were made public, and produced a profound impression. According to the first of these documents, penned by the Prussian Chief of the Staff, the Army of the Loire had sustained a complete defeat near Orleans on Sunday last, and Orleans itself had been reoccupied by the German troops. In transmitting this intelligence to General Trochu, Count Moltke made an offer of a free pass for a French officer to allow of his verifying it; but this offer the Governor of Paris preferred to decline, couching his reply in terms of delicate irony. Altogether, a most uneasy feeling was produced by this intelligence, although many professed to disbelieve it entirely; and others, who were disposed to admit its truth to a certain extent, endeavoured to explain away its gravity by suggesting that the city had fallen simply because only a few regiments had been left to defend it, and that the main body of General de Palladine's army was still hastening on to the relief of Paris. As usual, the boulevards and the cafés were crowded, and, spite of the inclemency of the weather, excited discussions ensued, both within and without doors, from which people retired not a whit wiser, but for the most part with sad misgivings as to whether it were now at all possible to save Paris from falling.

*Wednesday, Dec. 7.*—To-day we had intelligence of a little success outside the walls, which, however, but poorly compensated for the bad news received last night. The military bulletin announced that some troops, led on by Commander Poulizac, had carried three of the enemy's posts on the Soissons Railway, killing seven Prussians and capturing thirty knapsacks, forty helmets, and a couple of muskets, together with sundry blankets and saucepans. More interesting to the majority of the Parisians was the decree published in the *Journal Officiel* dissolving the famous battalion of Belleville sharpshooters, which played such a conspicuous part at the Hôtel de Ville on the occasion of the attempt to overthrow the Government of National Defence on October 31 last. It seems that the battalion in question, after having repeatedly demanded to be sent against the enemy, had, with other troops, been dispatched to the front, at Creteil, distant some 120 yards from the Prussian outposts. On the night of Nov. 28, the commander having recommended his men not to waste their ammunition uselessly, was startled shortly afterwards by a lively fusillade at the front, and still more startled by seeing a couple of companies quit the trenches and scamper off as fast as their legs would carry them. With great difficulty, he prevailed upon them to return, and next day the entire battalion was withdrawn from the post of honour, and accorded cantonments under the guns of Fort Charenton. The men, on being subsequently ordered to return to the trenches, flatly refused, and the commander reported that his battalion, the effective strength of which was 457 men, had become reduced by sixty-one men, and this not by casualties in face of the enemy. It further appeared that Citizen Flourens, although degraded some time since from his military rank, had rejoined the battalion in its cantonments and endeavoured to resume the command, for which proceeding his arrest and trial before a court-martial has been decreed; while as regards the battalion of sharpshooters, its dissolution has been determined upon, and the sixty-one fugitives are to be brought before a council of war. Flourens's arrest, it seems, was at once accomplished, and he is now confined in the Conciergerie; and, with the view, I suppose, of saving the reputation for valour of the tirailleurs of Belleville, the ultra-Republican clubs loudly maintain that police spies, duly instructed to run away, had been introduced by the authorities into the battalion, so as to bring discredit on the entire corps, and furnish a reactionary Government with a pretext for disarming the Republican patriots. As a proof that the Democratic and Socialist Republic has no wide circle of sympathisers, it may here be mentioned that Blanqui's rabid organ, *La Patrie en Danger*, has ceased to appear, through a considerable falling off in the number of its circulation.

*Thursday, Dec. 8.*—A report, signed by the chief of the Staff, was published in the *Journal Officiel* this morning, which, after recapitulating the principal incidents of the recent sortie—the various feints on the eastern, western, and northern sides of Paris, and the more serious attacks on the south, in the direction of Thiais, L'Hay, and Choisy-le-Roi, and especially on the south-east, against Champs-Élysées, Villiers, Neuilly, and Brie—gives the number of killed and wounded on the French side at 1008 and 5022 respectively, among which are included seventy-two officers killed and 342 wounded. During the sortie four German officers were taken prisoners by the French and sent into Paris, where they were liberated on parole, and, according to all accounts, experienced the handsomest treatment from their captors, having been invited on several occasions to dine with officers high in command, besides being entertained at different restaurants, and presented with money to enable them to provide themselves with private clothes in which they might go about Paris at their ease and judge for themselves of the food supply and of the determined spirit of resistance which animates all classes of the population. Before many days had elapsed, however, it was thought desirable to exchange them against an equal number of French officers among the prisoners in the hands of the Prussians; for, according to the report of General Schmitz, while dining at a restaurant on the boulevards they were subjected to grave insults on the part of some of the company present—insults, however, which are very generally said to have been provoked by the loud and hilarious conversation in which, with questionable taste, they thought it becoming to indulge.

*Friday, Dec. 9.*—General Renault was buried to-day in the Marshals' vault at the Invalides, in presence of several members of the Government and a considerable assemblage of officers, civic functionaries, and private friends desirous of paying a last tribute of respect to the memory of one of the bravest soldiers that have fallen during the present unfortunate war. The Archbishop of Paris has paid a visit to the Breton ambulance to urge the less seriously wounded to rejoin their regiments as soon as they are sufficiently recovered. He conjured them, moreover, never to think of surrendering, but to go on fighting for the deliverance of the country, remarking that he regretted his ecclesiastical character did not permit of his shouldering a musket and accompanying them to the field of battle. The Breton mobiles are by far the best fighting stuff we have in Paris, and as their spiritual pastors and masters exercise unbounded influence over them, the injunctions of Monseigneur Bauer will have considerable effect.

Save the unwelcome, and to a certain extent dubious, intelligence communicated to us by Count Moltke, we have been without news of any kind from the exterior for upwards of a week. The newspapers say that a peasant has succeeded in passing through the Prussian lines, and has brought information to the Government to the effect that Bourbaki's and De Palladine's armies are rapidly approaching Fontainebleau. Of

course, this entirely unconfirmed intelligence has sufficed to raise the drooping spirits of the Parisians, who again talk in their accustomed strain of holding out to the last, and of freeing the entire French soil from the hated presence of even a single Prussian, and who do not hesitate to pronounce Count Moltke's letter an unworthy trick to deceive them with regard to the true position of the armies of succour. In the evening it was reported that a couple of pigeons had arrived from Tours, and the excitement respecting the nature of the news they were supposed to have brought was most intense; still people had to wait for their curiosity to be gratified until the appearance of the *Journal Officiel* of the following morning.

*Saturday, Dec. 10.*—If the excitement was considerable last night, this morning it was of the wildest kind, and the public indignation was extreme, for the *Journal Officiel* contained a note to the effect that the balloon *Daguerre*, which ascended at Paris on the 12th of last month and had fallen into the hands of the Prussians, had with it a certain number of pigeons, of which the enemy had taken possession. Yesterday afternoon one of these pigeons returned to the dovecot with a despatch attached to it professing to have been sent from Rouen, and announcing that that city was in the hands of the Prussians, who were marching on Cherbourg, everywhere received with acclamations by the peasantry; that Orleans had been retaken; that Bourges and Tours were menaced, and the army of the Loire completely defeated; and winding up with the intimation that resistance no longer offered the smallest hope of deliverance. Later in the day a second pigeon arrived, with a despatch addressed to the editor of the *Figaro*, and professing to come from Tours. In addition to the intelligence contained in the first despatch, it stated that Gambetta had gone to Bordeaux, that everyone had had enough of the war, that brigandage was flourishing, the country devastated, horses and cattle failing, everywhere hunger; that no hope was left, and, finally, that Paris ought to understand it was no longer France.

Ingenious as was this manoeuvre, which evidently emanated from the Prussians, it failed most completely, from several causes. First of all, the owner of the pigeons recognised the birds as having been sent up in the *Daguerre* balloon; secondly, the despatches were found to be attached to the birds in a different fashion to that which had heretofore been invariably pursued; thirdly, both the language and penmanship of the despatches betrayed a German origin; and, fourthly, the first despatch professed to be signed by one of the secretaries of the Government who was still in Paris. One may mention that, owing to the constant capture of our postal balloons by the Prussians, we have for some time past taken to sending them up at night time, in the hope of their thereby eluding the vigilance of the enemy.

With reference to the all-important subject of provisions, I may note that fresh meat has now become extremely rare, and that the only kind regularly rationed out is horseflesh; while, as regards the salt meat, this is simply detestable; and as for the dried haddocks, they are incredibly nasty. No wonder, therefore, that the gourmets who commenced eating dogs, cats, and rats, by way of diversion, should continue feasting on this more palatable though unclean food. The Jockey Club have lately been partaking of a *dîner du siège*, as it was styled, which comprised carp, gudgeon, and eels from the Seine; bloaters, horse, ass and mule, dog, rat-pie, Dutch cheese, mushrooms, celery, salad, apples, and pears. Beef is, however, still to be procured at the better-class restaurants at a high figure, and even veal can on rare occasions be obtained. Hams, too, have made, lately, their appearance at the provision-shops in considerable quantities; but as much as 15*fr.* the pound is demanded for them. Cheese, too, is far more common than it was after the first few weeks of the siege, and can be purchased at a comparatively reasonable rate. The Government, moreover, have distributed a quantity of Dutch cheeses, of which it took possession about a couple of months since, no owner having come forward to claim them, among the maires of the various arrondissements, which have rationed them out, in lieu of salt meat or horseflesh, in portions of fifty grammes—about an ounce and two thirds—at the rate of a couple of shillings per lb.

The principal thoroughfares are still dimly lighted with gas of some description; but the cafés, shops, and private houses are compelled to burn either oil or candles. The former have adapted small lamps, designed for burning petroleum, to their chandeliers of many lights, which, as regards their illuminating power, present but a slight disadvantage. The odour, however, of the petroleum is excessively disagreeable. Several of the theatres are now open of an evening for dramatic and musical performances, which are given chiefly for patriotic purposes; and, altogether, Paris, though becomingly grave, is anything but gloomy.

The prizes for mathematics and fortifications, which were not presented to the gentlemen cadets at the recent examination at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, it not having been determined who was the successful student, have since been both awarded to Mr. McCallum.

The life-boat *Huddersfield*, stationed at Hasborough, Norfolk, and the "Grocers'" life-boat, at Mundesley, on the same coast, both of which boats belong to the National Life-boat Institution, were the means on Christmas Day, during bitterly cold weather and in a heavy sea, of saving the lives of thirteen men from the wrecked brig *Minerva*, of Seaham, and schooner *Flora*, of Margate.

The Diocesan Synod of Ardagh have determined to raise a fund for the separate endowment of Elphin and Ardagh as a bishopric, the duties of the three united dioceses being too heavy for one Bishop. The Dean of Ardagh and the Archdeacon have each given £1000, and Mr. Johnston, of Ratheline, £2000. Other subscriptions are promised. It will require £6000 to endow the bishopric.

We have received a copy of "After Four," which must surely be the last of the Christmas annuals. It is edited by Mr. Sydenham Dixon, and the contents—letterpress and illustrations—are entirely the work of gentlemen in the Civil Service. It naturally bears traces of amateur handiwork, and the drawings have not been improved by hurried engraving. There are, however, some good stories, and it is a well got-up and cheap shilling's worth.

An accident of a shocking character, resulting in the loss of eight lives, occurred, on Monday, on the Great Northern Railway. The particulars, as furnished to the papers by the general manager of the company, Mr. Oakley, are as follow:—"A very serious accident happened to the train leaving King's-cross at 4.25 p.m. for Peterborough. When it arrived near the Bell-bar signal station, about two miles south of Hatfield, the tire of one of the wheels of a brake-van broke, and threw that and three other carriages off the line. Seven passengers were killed, and three others were severely hurt. The wife of one of our signalmen, who was walking on the side of the line at the moment of the accident, was struck by one of the carriages and killed."



## OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

## LORD HOTHAM.

The Right Hon. Beaumont Hotham, third Baron Hotham, of South Dalton, in the Peerage of Ireland, and a Baronet of England, died on the 12th inst. His Lordship was born at Lullingstone Castle, Kent, Aug. 9, 1794, the elder son of Beaumont Hotham, Esq., by Philadelphia, his wife, eldest daughter of Sir John Dixon Dyke, Bart. He was educated at Westminster, and at an early age, in 1810, entered the army, in the Coldstream Guards. He served with that regiment in the Peninsula from 1812 to 1814 (being wounded at Salamanca), and was also present at the Battle of Waterloo. For his services he received the war medal, with four clasps, and the Waterloo medal. In 1814 he succeeded his grandfather, as third Baron Hotham; in 1820 he was elected member for Leominster, and continued to sit for that borough till 1841, when he was returned for the East Riding of Yorkshire, retaining that seat in each successive Parliament till 1868. His Lordship's commission as General bears date 1865. He was never married, and the title consequently devolves upon his nephew, Charles, fourth Baron Hotham, late Captain 18th Foot, who was born May 29, 1836 (the son of his Lordship's late brother, Rear-Admiral the Hon. George Frederick Hotham, by his wife, Lady Susan Maria O'Brien, eldest daughter and coheir of William, Marquis of Thomond). The Hothams are of great antiquity in Yorkshire. The first Baronet was Sir John Hotham, the famous Governor of Hull, temp. Charles I., and the first peer, Admiral William Hotham, created Lord Hotham in 1797 for his brilliant naval achievements.

## THE DOWAGER VISCOUNTESS ARBUTHNOTT.

The Right Hon. Margaret, Dowager Viscountess Arbuthnot, died at Arbuthnot House, Kincardineshire, on the 12th inst. Her Ladyship was born May 4, 1782, the eldest daughter of Walter Ogilvy, Esq., of Clova, *de jure* Earl of Airlie, and aunt of David Graham Drummond, present Earl of Airlie. She married, June 25, 1805, John, eighth Viscount Arbuthnot, by whom she leaves John, present Viscount Arbuthnot, and several other children.

## BARONESS SELSEY.

The Right Hon. Anne Maria Louisa, Lady Selsey, died on the 19th inst. Her Ladyship was born Oct. 2, 1792, the youngest daughter of Frederick Irby, second Lord Boston, F.A.S., D.C.L., by Christiana, his wife, only daughter of Paul Methuen, Esq., of Corsham House, Wilts. She married, Oct. 21, 1817, Henry John Peachey, third Lord Selsey, but had no issue. Her husband died March 10, 1838, and with him the Barony of Selsey expired.

## LADY VICTORIA HOPE-SCOTT.

The Right Hon. Lady Victoria Alexandrina Hope-Scott, wife of James Robert Hope-Scott, Esq., of Abbotsford, the very eminent Queen's Counsel, died, on the 20th inst., at Norfolk House, London. Her Ladyship was born July 3, 1840, the eldest child of Henry Granville, seventeenth Duke of Norfolk, by Augusta Mary Minna Catherine, his wife, daughter of Edmund, first Lord Lyons, G.C.B. Her marriage to Mr. Hope-Scott (whose second wife she was) took place Jan. 7, 1861, and its issue consists of three surviving daughters and one son, born nine days before Lady Victoria's death.

## LADY BEAUMONT.

Paulina Menzies, Lady Beaumont, died, at Cole Orton, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, in the county of Leicester, on the 9th inst. Her Ladyship was the third daughter of W. Hallows Belli, Esq., of the Hon. East India Company's Civil Service, and niece of the Most Rev. Dr. Howley, Archbishop of Canterbury; and was married, June 4, 1850, to Sir George Howland Beaumont, Bart., of Stoughton Grange, in the county of Leicester, by whom she had issue four sons and two daughters. Of the daughters, the younger, Eleanor Grace Caroline, died on the 16th inst., exactly a week after Lady Beaumont's demise.

## THE HON. H. D. WARD.

The Hon. Humble Dudley Ward died, at Deal, on the 14th inst. He was born Dec. 20, 1821, the second son of William Humble, tenth Lord Ward, by Amelia, his wife, daughter of Mr. William Gooch Pillans, of Bracondale, and was consequently brother of William, present Earl of Dudley. He married, Dec. 17, 1843, Eleanor Louisa, third daughter of Thomas Hawkes, Esq., M.P., of Himley House, Staffordshire, and leaves one son, William Humble Dudley, born 1849, and two daughters, Amelia Alice Julia, married, in 1865, to Captain James Keith Fraser, 1st Life Guards, and Henrietta Maria, married, in 1869, to George Stewart Forbes, Esq., second son of Sir Charles Forbes, Bart., of Newe.

## MR. KIRK, M.P.

William Kirk, Esq., of Annevale, in the county of Armagh, J.P. and D.L., and High Sheriff of the county in 1863, M.P. for Newry, died, at Annevale, on the 20th inst. He was born Oct. 16, 1795, the eldest son of Hugh Kirk, Esq., of Larne, by Eliza, his wife, daughter of William Miller, Esq. Formerly in business as a linen merchant, he had acquired a considerable fortune, and was, at the time of his death, a director and chairman of the Irish board of the Newry and Armagh Railway Company. In 1852 he became M.P. for Newry, which borough he continued to represent until 1857. In 1865 he contested unsuccessfully the city of Armagh, and in 1868 was again elected for Newry. Mr. Kirk married, in 1820, Anne, daughter of James Mackenzie, Esq., of Armagh, and leaves issue, sons and daughters.

The post of Judge-Advocate-General, vacated by the resignation of Sir Colman O'Loughlin, has been accepted by Mr. John Robert Davison, Q.C., the member for Durham.

The members of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh have resolved by a large majority to discontinue mixed classes for the study of medicine.

The *Civilian* states that the reorganisation of the pattern and sample posts is under the consideration of the postal authorities, and that early in the ensuing year very extensive alterations in the existing state of affairs will be made, greatly to the advantage of the public.

The herring fishery has closed at Lowestoft. During the past season 10,456 lasts of herrings were landed at the port, or 3544 lasts more than the season of 1869. Since Oct. 1 the Great Eastern Railway Company has carried 15,000 tons of fish (herrings and other descriptions) from Lowestoft.

## CHESS.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

FABRICE, of Dieppe; I. W. A., X. Y. Z., D. NOYES.—Your Problems are at present in the examiner's hands.

A. N. DENDRINO.—I. We cannot possibly find space for so long a letter as you have sent us. Your denial of having been indebted to the "Indian Problem" in the composition of the position in question is quite satisfactory. 2. Problem No. 14 shall be examined in due course.

DITOMASOVICH, Wien.—Your solutions of Problem No. 1395 is the true one.

QUERY.—Yes; there was not space for them at the time, and they were passed by.

ALEX. IESOL.—You are quite wrong with regard to Problem No. 1399, and should learn the English Chess notation. Not one of the moves you give is possible.

THE CORRECT SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1398 has been received, since the publication of our list last week, from the Rev. E. A. Adams, F. R. S., Meliora, Queen, V. P.,

Holt, W. Archer, Spencer and Parker, Miranda, Lechgothhead, Phil, Willie Walton.

THE CORRECT SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1399 has been received from W. R. W.,

H. Human, H. W. B., The Hague, E. H. Whomes, L. I. Montgomery, E. H. F.,

B. A., Chess Co. (Limited), R. B. E., Haie Bank, G. H. L., Felix, W. M., Sigma, Hot and

Cox, Bippingall and Kulemann, Liege, Willie Walton, M. P.; C. E. Chatham; Herbert

Byes, Deraven, Wildfire, Blagabius, Max, T. R. M., G. C. S. Richardson, Pip,

Damiano, W. M. Curtis, Fidele, G. E. L., F. N. R., B. Scot, Scacchophilus, G. W. P., F. L.

Pavitt, West Ridge; Captain M., Dublin; F. H. Mona, I. N. Keynes, A. D. Durrant, I. M.

Burns, Eaton, 1870, Orazio, Gulliver, S. B. T., Charles de Lorme, W. R. E., I. De Vevey,

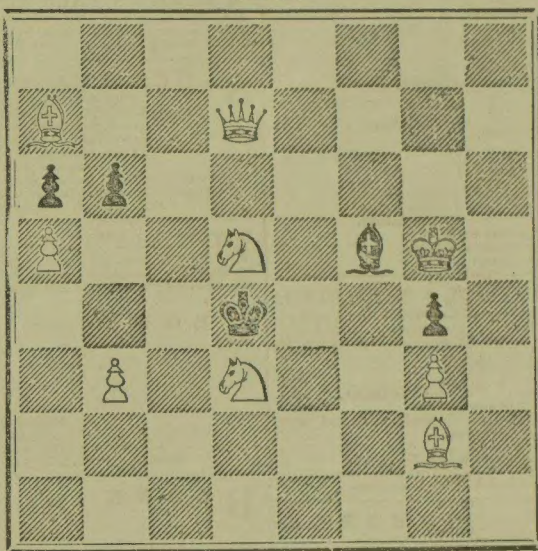
Thomas P. C., I. B. Rogers, C. B. E., R. T., Fabrice, Dieppe; H. E. K.; B. Fielding, of

Oldham; M. D. Forbes, S. W. O., I. S. D., A. P. C. Kup, Midge, W. A. E.

## PROBLEM NO. 1401.

By Mr. I. N. KEYNES.

## BLACK.



## WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

## THE TOUR OF THE CHESS KNIGHT.

sor	to	king	good	say	luck	loy	eth
and	moth	a	soon	dis	our	to	bad
place	ry	church	his	force	is	hat	al
er	queen	him	wight	he	to	may	truth
man	his	and	and	chess	es	knight	op's
a	sneer	the	and	un	lawn	of	tates
cas	that	at	less	pawn	no	bish	lant
eth	faith	ties	hath	the	gal	in	love

The feat of playing a Knight to each of the sixty-four squares of the chess-board without touching any of the squares twice has been a problem of exceeding interest ever since the celebrated mathematicians Euler and De Moivre devoted their attention to it. In the diagram above the composer has endeavoured to popularise the problem by rendering the solution poetical.

The reader is to discover the first syllable (which marks the starting-point of the Knight), and then to copy all the syllables one by one, according to the Knight's march over the sixty-four squares. The result will be certain sentences with which most chessplayers will agree. We shall be obliged to any one conversant with the subject who will favour us with an explanation.

## CHESS IN LONDON.

The following is one of the Games in the late Tourney for the B. C. A. challenge cup.—(Ruy Lopez Kt's Opening.)

WHITE (Mr. Wisker).	BLACK (Mr. Burn).	WHITE (Mr. Wisker).	BLACK (Mr. Burn).
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	31. B to K sq	B to K 7th
2. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	The conception of all this is so ingenious that one is inclined to regret it was not successful.	
3. B to Q Kt 5th	Kt to K 2nd	32. Kt takes B	P to K B 6th
4. Kt to Q B 3rd	P takes P	33. Kt to K B 5th	P to K B 7th
5. P to Q 4th	B to K Kt 2nd	34. R to K R sq	P to B 8th (becoming a Queen)
6. Kt takes P	Castles	35. R takes Q	B takes R
7. B to K 3rd	P to Q 4th	36. Kt takes P	P takes P
8. P to K B 4th	Kt takes P	37. P takes P	P to K B 6th
9. P takes P	Q takes P	38. B to K Kt 3rd	P to Q B 3rd
10. Q Kt takes Kt	Q takes Kt	39. B to K 5th	K to K 2nd
11. B takes Kt	P takes Kt	40. K to K 4th	K to K 3rd
12. Q to K B 3rd	R to K sq	41. B to K B 4th	R to Q 7th
13. Q takes Q	P takes Q	42. B to K 5th	B to K Kt 7th (ch)
14. K to B 2nd	B to Q B 3rd	43. B to Q 4th	R to K B 7th (ch)
15. P to Q B 3rd	R to K 5th	44. K to B 4th	R to K B sq
16. Q R to Q sq	Q R to K sq	45. P to K Kt 5th	K takes K
17. K to B K sq	B to Q B 5th	46. K to Kt 3rd	K to K 5th
18. P to Q Kt 3rd	B to Q R 3rd	47. Kt takes B	
19. P to Q Kt 4th	P to Q R 3rd	48. P to K Kt 6th	
20. P to Q R 5th	K to B sq		
21. P to Q B 3rd	P to K R 4th		
22. K to B 3rd	B to K R 3rd		
23. P to K R 3rd			
Threatening, evidently, to take the K B Pawn with his Bishop.			
24. B to Q 2nd	B to K Kt 2nd		
25. R takes R	P takes R (ch)		
26. K to K 3rd	P to K B 4th		
27. R to K Kt sq	B to K R 3rd		
The first step in a very clever combination.			
28. P to K Kt 4th	P to K Kt 4th		
29. Kt takes K B P	P takes P (ch)		
30. K to Q 4th	P to K 6th		
	and Black abandoned the game.		

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Sir,—In reply to the notice published in your Paper for Dec. 3 touching my problem (No. 13). I beg to assure the examiners that I have never seen, nor before the receipt of the Paper mentioned, had I the least idea of the "Indian Problem" of which they are pleased to qualify my composition as a "réchauffé." Yours respectfully, A. DENDRINO.

MATCH BETWEEN THE BERMONDSEY CHESS CLUB AND THE BEDFORD INSTITUTE CHESS CLUB.—An encounter between twelve members of each of these clubs has lately taken place, the result being a decisive victory for the Bermondsey players, who won nineteen games to their opponents' four.

## WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will, in Scotch form, of the Duchesse de Coigny (Henrietta Dundas Dalrymple Hamilton) was proved in the London Court under a nominal sum; and that of Lady A. Berney under £4000.

The will of General C. G. J. Arbuthnot, Colonel of the 91st Foot, of Woodford House, near Thrapston, Northamptonshire, who died, on Oct. 21 last, at Folkestone, at the age of sixty-nine, was proved in London, on the 5th ult., under £14,000 personality. The gallant General was formerly Equerry to her Majesty, and had formerly represented Tregony in Parliament.

The will of Captain John Trotter, formerly of her Majesty's 2nd Regiment of Life Guards, late of Dyrham Park, near Barnet, Herts, was proved in London under £70,000. The executors and trustees are the Hon. Charlotte Amelia Trotter, the relict, and the testator's sons Frederick, Henry, and Edward. Mrs. Trotter is appointed sole guardian of her children during their minority. The will is dated March 2, 1870; and the gallant Captain died on Oct. 29 last, at his town residence, 13, Connaught-place, in his sixty-second year. He has bequeathed to his wife, who was the daughter of the first Lord Ravensworth, all funded property or other securities standing in her own or their joint names, for her own use absolutely, and leaves her the furniture and other effects not otherwise disposed of for her life; a life interest in certain estates, and the right of presentation to the living of Christ Church, South Mimms, with the parsonage, school-house, and land attached, together with the interest of £30,000, which sum, after her decease, is to be divided amongst their children (except the inheritor of the Dyrham estate); other estates are also left to her for life, which will, after her decease, devolve to their unmarried daughters. He has made liberal bequests to his sons and daughters, beyond any other provision—namely, to his sons Henry, Edward, Mowbray, and John, he leaves a legacy of £5000 each; and to each of his four unmarried daughters £4000, free of duty. His daughter Mrs. Hanbury, he states, "is, happily, amply provided for," but he leaves her, as a mark of respect, a legacy of £200. To his son Stuart he leaves an interest in certain estates, and appoints his eldest son residuary legatee.

The will of Sebastian Garrard, Esq., late of Colebrooke Lodge, Putney-heath, of the firm of R. and S. Garrard, goldsmiths and silversmiths to the Crown, 25, Haymarket, was proved in London, on the 14th ult., under £120,000. He has left to the Silver Trade Protection Society and the Goldsmiths' Benevolent Institution each a legacy of £500.

The will of the Rev. H. Michell Wagner, M.A., late Vicar of Brighton, and Treasurer of Chichester Cathedral, was proved in London under £100,000.

The will of Miss Frances Maria Kilvert, of College-green, Worcester, was proved in London, under £35,000. Among other bequests are the following:—To the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the Home Mission for Increasing the Number of Curates, £2000 each, free of duty.

## ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

## BURNING IN AIR.

Professor Odling, on Tuesday last, gave the first of a course of six lectures, adapted to an educated juvenile auditory, on Burning and Unburning. He began by exhibiting and explaining the various methods formerly adopted for obtaining a light, including the miner's lamp, the gun-lock, and the flint, steel, and tinder-box, which he contrasted with our very convenient lucifer-match; and he also showed the brilliant light produced by electricity, and employed it to ignite the gas-jets which form the sun-lights of the lecture-theatre. After adverting to the distinction between combustible and incombustible substances, he proceeded to inquire into and illustrate the phenomena of combustion. He lit an ordinary sperm candle, and stated that when ignited it diminished in length about an inch an hour, and lost about two grains in weight a minute; and he showed also that it could neither inflame nor continue burning without contact with air. The intimate connection between combustion and our air being thus proved, the Professor demonstrated by experiments that this air consists of one part of oxygen, formerly termed "vital air," as essential to animal life, and four parts of nitrogen or azote, formerly termed "non-vital air," which cannot be breathed and does not support combustion. He also exhibited hydrogen as an invisible gas which extinguishes flame but is itself combustible. He then showed how the two gases which compose ordinary atmospheric air can be separated and recombined. When some pyrogallate of potash was shaken up in common air, it absorbed precisely one fifth of the air (i.e., all its oxygen), leaving the nitrogen (four fifths); and it was stated that when mercury is heated for some time in air an exactly similar result ensues: all the oxygen of the air is absorbed, forming the red oxide of mercury, which when heated gives up the oxygen again. Professor Odling next exhibited some of the brilliant vivid phenomena produced by combustion in pure oxygen, as contrasted with the quiet, steady combustion in ordinary air. Proceeding next to consider the results of the combustion of the candle, he proved them to be water in the form of steam (an oxide of the combustible gas hydrogen—in fact, burnt hydrogen) and carbonic gas (an oxide of carbon or burnt carbon). He said that in burning in air the weight of sperm becomes less and less until the candle is burnt out, but the weight of the products of the burning is increased by the addition of the weight of the oxygen consumed. All ordinary combustibles, such as wood, oil, coal, and gas, consist chiefly of carbon and hydrogen, and when burnt yield the same products as the sperm candle; and in like manner other combustibles, such as sulphur and phosphorus, when burnt in air, yield the oxide of sulphur or the oxide of phosphorus respectively—the former being an invisible gas, the latter a white solid. The burning, then, of different substances in air or oxygen consists in a combination of the substances with oxygen to form oxidised products; and this act of combination is attended by the evolution of light and heat. The lecture was concluded by the exhibition of the very brilliant combustion of silver, cadmium, zinc, and other metals between the glowing points of the electric lamp. The Count and Countess of Paris were among the audience.

The marble statue to Mr. Smith O'Brien was unveiled on Monday, at Dublin, in the presence of the Lord Mayor and a vast concourse of spectators. The statue, which is a good likeness, was executed in the studio of Messrs. Farrell. It stands at the junction of Carlisle Bridge and Sackville-street.

A new mansion erected for the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, at Elveden, near Thetford, Norfolk, is nearly completed. His Highness has taken up his residence in the southern portion of it. It is in the Indian style of architecture, and the internal decorations are very elaborate and costly. The entrance, also Oriental in its character, is magnificent.



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